THE TIMES

50P

No. 65,952

SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

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DIVISION

IN TODAY'S 60-PAGE MAGAZINE

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Free travel, pay and uniform on offer

Commuters wanted as train guards

By Arthur Leathley, Transport Correspondent

A RAIL company's plans to recruit commuters to take on the duties of train guards was criticised by passengers and unions last night.

Great Eastern Railway is offering free travel plus a salary of £5.25 an hour to those willing to make announcements on platforms, check "slam doors" are closed, assist passengers and give a signal to the driver — before jumping in themselves. Then they would make any necessary on-board announcements.

The "commuter guards" will wear blue uniforms and peaked caps and be offered changing facilities.

Great Eastern, which runs services out of Liverpool Street in London — one of the busiest terminals in the country — to Essex and East Anglia, said it had launched its "mould-breaking scheme" because a recent recruitment drive had failed to find enough part-time staff, making it difficult to run peak-time services.

Only 40 applicants had come forward, out of whom just three passed tests. One of those three then failed a medical check.

Mike Turner, the company's commercial director, saw a similar scheme in operation during a visit to Hong Kong and decided to launch the idea in Britain. "Most commuters prefer to relax, read the paper or sleep. Others use the journey as part of their working day, but there is no doubt this could be a lucrative way of spending the journey," he said.

A spokesman for the rail company said that anyone from a secretary to a managing director who travelled in to the capital from the east-coast towns of Harwich, Clacton and Walton-on-the-Naze could apply. If successful, the scheme could be extended to other parts of the company's network. Would-be recruits will undergo a week's initial training, followed by three days "on the job" training, and will then be assessed.

Union leaders claimed, however, that the company's so-called "work-to-work" plan was aimed at cutting costs and said that passengers' safety would be put at risk by "well-intentioned amateurs running the service". The plans were dubbed "half-baked".

Besides their pay, the "commuter guards" will receive free travel to their normal workplace — worth up to £3,500 a year from Harwich. They will be expected to work for half-an-hour before the train departs for its 90-minute journey, but will not collect fares or check tickets.

Unlike modern sliding-door trains, which can be run with only a driver, older "slam-door" trains must have a guard. Great Eastern admits it has come close to cancelling rush-hour trains because of staffing difficulties."

After the equivalent of a week's training, given at weekends and in the evenings, the new staff will be accompanied by a trained guard for three days before being allowed to work single-handed.

The 14 part-time "commuter guards" would staff fewer than ten trains a day travelling into Liverpool Street at peak-times.

They will face strict rules that prevent any trace of drugs or alcohol and will not be able to work more than 12 hours a day. Those working in full-time jobs are likely to be allowed to don their guard's jacket on only one journey a day. The Health and Safety Executive, which polices workplace safety, insisted the same training levels would have to be offered as would apply for a full-time guard. "There is no question that we would allow lesser standards of training," it said.

The RMT rail union, which represents most of the country's 6,000 guards, said they had to undergo six weeks' training, including detailed knowledge of the track system. Guards' leaders said that such intimate knowledge of the system was essential in the event of an accident.

Jimmy Knapp, leader of the RMT, said: "A do-it-yourself railway is the most bizarre proposal I have come across in nearly 40 years involvement in the industry. There is more to being a guard than waving a flag and blowing a whistle.

"Anyone can do that, but the true test of a guard's calibre is when a train is derailed on a dark night and 600 passengers have to be guided on to the track without being in the way of another train. Railways are remarkably safe when they are run properly but in the hands of the wrong people they are hugely dangerous." Lew Adams, gen-

Continued on page 2, col 6

A Great Eastern guard at Liverpool Street

KIERAN DOHERTY / Reuters

Londoners offered an inflated sense of art

BRITAIN'S biggest portable inflatable structure opened in Shepherds Bush Green, London, yesterday. Visitors were invited to step inside, remove socks and shoes and put on coloured capes to explore a maze of tunnels so that they "could become part of the visual art". The structure, called Dreamspace II by creator and artist Maurice Agis, stands six metres high and covers an area of 2,500 square metres — about the size of 25 Olympic swimming pools. The exhibit is open from 1pm to 8pm every day until September 7.

Academic who used expenses for museum trips is jailed

By Simon de Bruxelles

AN EDUCATION official responsible for setting history exams for thousands of Welsh school pupils was jailed yesterday for fiddling more than £21,000 in travel expenses.

Dr William Lambert, 53, who earned £50,000 a year and was described as a distinguished academic, claimed nearly 300 first class rail fares to London on the pretext of attending education meetings. Instead he spent the time in art galleries and museums.

Lambert, deputy chief executive of the Welsh Joint Education Committee, was jailed for four months at Cardiff Crown court after admitting the 298 charges of false accounting.

Janet MacDonald, prosecuting, told how Lambert claimed expenses to London from Cardiff. He had began his job at the WJEC offices in Cardiff, in September 1988. In January 1990 he began submitting false claims, beginning with a £7.70 taxi fare and rising to a £113.20 first class train ticket.

She said: "Lambert arrived at meetings but decided they were of no interest and spent his time elsewhere. As he got away with it he began inventing meetings."

The court was told that Lambert had a PhD in history from Swansea and had lectured at Oxford. He had honours degrees from other universities.

Simon Mumford, defending, said: "He is a respected and erudite academic and is highly thought of throughout the country. He would lose the will to function without his academic pursuits.

"There were no furtive affairs, gambling, alcohol or drug-taking involved. He spent his time in places such as the Tate gallery and the Natural History Museum. "Dr Lambert is almost unworldly in the naivety of his outlook. He is a donnish intellectual and he has been cocooned in academia for most of his adult life. The man has lived in his own world and his only contact has been with other academics.

Lambert, of Cyncoed, Cardiff, pleaded guilty to nine charges of false accounting and asked for 289 others to be taken into consideration. He has repaid £7,667. He was sacked eight months ago.

Judge Michael Gibbon said: "It was thoroughly dishonest conduct and you were motivated by greed. You have lost your reputation and you are going to jail. The clang of the prison gates is what everyone in your position must realise is what they will hear."

Mr Mumford said: "Since losing his job he has been living off the largesse of his wife. She is a former teacher but has not worked for many years."

Lambert: Lived in his own donnish world

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England struggle

Matthew Elliott and Ricky Ponting put Australia in command of the fourth Test. At the close they were 258-4 in reply to England's 172 Page 48

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Motorists to pay for London mayor

By Nicholas Wood

LONDON'S first directly-elected mayor will be allowed to raise money from motorists through increased car parking costs, fines and charges for using busy roads, the Government will disclose next week.

The mayor — a chief executive for the capital with a budget of around £4 billion — will not be allowed to raise council tax bills.

But Tuesday's government Green Paper detailing proposed reforms to the capital's administration will give limited revenue-raising powers to the mayor and a parallel elected assembly of up to 32 councillors.

If the new system, planned to come into effect in 2000, proves a success, other big cities may also be allowed to elect a mayor.

As well as taxing motorists, the capital's new boss will also be able to alter spending priorities within his budget.

The assembly will have the right to examine the mayor's budget decisions, planning proposals, and awards of contracts and jobs and amend or veto those it does not like.

Responsibility for spending on London's police, fire and public transport services will switch from Whitehall departments to the new mayor. Ministers want the mayor kept under tight supervision to minimise the risk of corruption scandals, as have dogged city hall bosses in the United States and France.

Most of the extra cash raised would be ploughed back into making good the £1.5 billion backlog of repairs and investment in the London Underground.

The Transport Department is already examining proposals to charge motorists £400 a year to drive into London. Residents of the capital would have to pay an extra £100 a year to keep a car on London roads.

Business leaders are backing moves to levy new charges on motorists. Proposals to be submitted to ministers next week will suggest that £300 million a year could be raised to improve public transport if tougher penalties were imposed on motorists and additional charges were levied on businesses.

London First, representing more than 200 businesses, including leading banks and retailers, is calling for a £2 charge for cars driven into central London, a £1,000 annual tax on the 50,000 company parking spaces and a

Continued on page 2, col 5

Four killed in minibus crash

Four people were killed and ten injured yesterday when their minibus overturned after crashing into the wreckage of a lorry that had just hit a railway bridge.

The minibus was from a social services day centre at Whitwell in north Derbyshire. Three of the victims were members of staff, the other was a young adult. All the passengers were wearing seatbelts.

£70m damages

A Texas jury ordered the Roman Catholic diocese of Dallas to pay £70 million in damages for ignoring a "mountain of evidence" and covering up the long-term sexual abuse of 11 altar boys by a priest. The damages should send a message to "the bishops that this kind of abuse must stop", a lawyer said .... Page 15

Ben Hogan dies

Ben Hogan, who won nine major golf championships between 1946 and 1953, died in Fort Worth after being admitted to hospital with bronchitis. He was 84.

Hogan suffered a near-fatal car crash in 1949 and was told he would never walk again, but he recovered to win the US Open the following year .... Pages 23, 48

Inquiry launched into CPS methods

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

DAME BARBARA MILLS, the Director of Public Prosecutions, last night set up an urgent inquiry into the way the Crown Prosecution Service makes decisions in the most serious cases in which no charges are brought.

The most far-reaching inquiry in the service's 14-year history will in particular study the handling of two deaths in police custody. This decision is as a result of the High Court quashing CPS decisions not to bring manslaughter charges against the police officers involved in the two separate cases.

Dame Barbara acted after 24 hours in which her resignation was called for along with a full inquiry into how the decision not to prosecute the officers was reached. The inquiry will focus on the CPS's central London division, which deals with the more serious cases from all over the country, but may later be extended to other divisions.

Earlier this week Dame Barbara agreed in the High Court to reconsider decisions not to prosecute officers involved in the deaths of Shiji Lapite in Stoke Newington and of Richard O'Brien in Walworth, south London. In both cases the decision not to prosecute was taken by Robert Munday, a principal Crown prosecutor, and was approved by senior officials, including Dame Barbara.

The new inquiry will also look at the circumstances in which material, including affidavits and disclosed documents which showed inconsistencies, was prepared for the High Court.

A High Court judge yesterday reserved judgment in a third challenge to a decision not to prosecute policemen, this time over the torture of a suspect who survived. In this case, the court was told, Derek Treadaway, a robbery suspect, was "suffocated to unconsciousness" by members of the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad in 1982.

Deborah Coles, director of the pressure group Inquest, which monitors deaths in police custody, said yesterday that Dame Barbara's position was now "untenable". She told BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*: "We have to question whether or not she can carry on as the director. Certainly the two cases [O'Brien and Lapite] over the last couple of days have revealed apparent conflicts between the case notes in these cases and the affidavit of the director."

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by John Lloyd

Young are committing 13 crimes each minute

Richard Ford on a problem costing the nation up to £10 billion a year

THIRTEEN crimes a minute are carried out by young offenders every day at a cost to victims and the Government of between £5 billion and £10 billion a year, a senior police officer said yesterday.

But only 3 per cent of offences committed by young people lead to an arrest followed by a caution or action in the courts. And only 19 per cent of offences are recorded by police.

Charles Clark, an assistant chief constable of Essex police, said that the scale of offending by young people under the age of 18 meant they were committing 19,178 offences a day or 799 an hour. Twenty-six per cent of offenders cautioned or found guilty of a crime in 1995 were under 18.

Mr Clark told a conference organised by the Howard League for Penal Reform of the scale and cost of juvenile crime in the two Essex towns of Basildon and Thurrock.

The total cost of crime committed by the under-18s in Basildon was estimated at £1.5 million of the overall £6 million crime cost. If the figure included crime committed by those aged between 18 and 21, it rose to £3 million. In Thurrock the cost of crime committed by under-18s was £1.7 million of the overall £7 million crime bill and if the figure included crimes carried out by those aged 18-21, it rose to £3.5 million.

"These costs, however substantial, cannot show the cost of misery and fear that are, arguably, a greater cost to society," Mr Clark told the conference at Church House in Westminster. He said that in spite of total recorded crime having fallen for the past three years, there was little hope of a reduction in youth crime. "It is the contention of the police service that youth crime is a serious and continuing problem."

Mr Clark based most of his findings on an Audit Commission report published last year that criticised the youth justice system, which costs £1 billion a year, as an inefficient and expensive failure. Mr Clark outlined a strategy being adopted by chief constables of making a concerted attack on crime by young people, including a wider use of "caution plus".

Under this system an offender is cautioned but they have to make some form of reparation to the victim, pay compensation, or attend a course intended to help them to deal with behavioural difficulties.

Mr Clark also called for a more co-ordinated approach, bringing together police, probation officers, social workers and education departments. He said that there was little point in excluding children from school when they needed support from teachers, and when freedom from the classroom was likely to lead them further into crime.

Mr Clark wants to see greater efforts being made to change the circumstances most likely to encourage young people to become criminals, such as teenage pregnancy, harsh parenting, poor parental supervision, divorce and separation and low intelligence.

□ Police offered a £5,000 reward yesterday after the death of a 96-year-old woman who had been mugged. Elizabeth Pinhorn was attacked as she climbed the steps to her home in Herne Hill, southeast London, on June 9.

The robber, a black man in his twenties, dragged her down the stairs before stealing her handbag containing her rent book and £35. She was taken to hospital after a neighbour heard her cries for help but died on June 27 from head, leg and shoulder injuries.

Will Hay as William Porter, centre, in the 1937 railway-based British comedy film "Oh Mr Porter"

Jobs for commuters

Continued from page 1

eral secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, said that the plan was a "safety nightmare". "Are there no lengths that the new private train operators are not prepared to go to to cut costs and maximise their money-grabbing profits? Are there no risks they are not prepared to take with the lives of the travelling public? This half-baked scheme is yet another example of safety being seriously compromised — and on crowded, rush hour services."

Keith Bill, national secretary of the pressure group Save Our Railways, said: "This is almost beyond belief. It is lunacy and it is dangerous."

Commuters streaming home from Liverpool Street yesterday appeared no more impressed. Andrea Rice, 49, an unemployed receptionist who normally travels to Chadwell Heath in Essex, said anyone would have to be "desperate for the money" to be a part-time guard. Surely the company could find somebody to do the work, such as retired people, she added.

Alan York, a 37-year-old insurance broker, from Harold Wood, Essex, said the idea was "laughable".

The company received a £29 million subsidy from taxpayers this year and is owned by First Bus, the bus and rail group that began a seven-year franchise in January.

Straw acts to counter threat of jail crisis

By Richard Ford
HOME CORRESPONDENT

JACK STRAW has been forced to provide urgent cash for the Prison Service after being warned that the increase in the number of inmates could make jails uncontrollable.

Officials in the Prison Service underestimated the speed at which prison numbers would increase, leaving the system with a desperate shortage of cells, according to a government report published yesterday. It said that unless action was taken to check overcrowding, "the risk to control could become severe". Hundreds of prisoners are bused around the system daily in an attempt to find empty cells. It is expected that 13,000 inmates will be doubled in single cells by the autumn.

The report also warned Mr Straw of a increasing backlog of repairs urgently needed at many jails and of the risk that some areas of jails would be condemned by the health and safety authorities. It disclosed that the heating systems at Holloway jail in north London and Canterbury prison failed suddenly during the past 12 months because of delays in replacing corroded piping.

After receiving the audit of the prison system, the Home Secretary announced a £43 million emergency injection of cash for extra spaces, from savings in the Home Office budget.

The Home Secretary is to delay implementation of automatic three-year jail sentences for three-time domestic burglars because this would add tens of thousands to the prison population. He will introduce automatic life sentences for repeat sex offenders and violent offenders and automatic seven-year terms for repeated dealing in class A drugs.

Mr Straw is also to allow more prisoners to have television in their cells as part of a privilege and incentive system. Prison staff also believe that television in cells will ease control problems.

Mr Straw said that he was alarmed at a prison population increasing at the rate enough to fill one new jail every month.

The controversial painting by Marcus Harvey

Hindley picture condemned by victim's mother

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent

THE mother of one of Myra Hindley's victims is to seek legal advice over plans by the Royal Academy to exhibit a portrait of the murderer made from thousands of a child's handprints.

Winnie Johnson, whose 12-year-old son Keith Bennett was murdered by Hindley and her accomplice Ian Brady, said she would be examining whether she could stop the picture being exhibited.

The portrait by artist Marcus Harvey, which recreates the famous police photograph of the Moors murderer from the 1960s, was described by the child protection charity Kidscape as an "appalling" publicity stunt.

The Royal Academy said the handprints were all made using a cast taken from a single child's hand to create a computer-look image of the Hindley photograph. It will go on display from September 18 as part of the Academy's display of young British avant garde artists.

Mrs Johnson, of Fallowfield, Manchester, said: "They must be sick in their minds to think of such a thing. The very idea of using little children's handprints to create a picture of this evil woman is beyond belief. I am going to see my solicitor next week to see if anything can be done to stop it."

Yesterday Kidscape urged the public to boycott the exhibtion. Michele Elliot, the charity's director, said: "This is done purely for shock value and without any sensitivity to the very alive relatives of the dead children or to the public."

Hindley was jailed with her accomplice Ian Brady in 1966 for the murders of Leslie Ann Downey, 10, and Edward Evans, 17. In 1987 they confessed to the killings of Pauline Reade, 16, and Keith Bennett, 12.

Now 56, Hindley is challenging a decision by the former Home Secretary Michael Howard that she must spend the rest of her life behind bars.

NEWS IN BRIEF

GCHQ workers return

Former GCHQ workers who were dismissed in 1984 for refusing to relinquish trade union membership, yesterday took part in a symbolic march back to the Cheltenham intelligence surveillance centre. Nine of the 14 men were cheered by some 100 supporters as they walked through the security checkpoint at the base. The march comes after a Government decision to overturn the ban on trade unions at GCHQ imposed amid controversy by Margaret Thatcher in 1984 when the Tories said that union membership could pose a security risk.

Boy strangled

Nine-year-old Scott Simpson, whose body was found in bushes near his home in Aberdeen on Monday, was strangled with a ligature, according to the results of post-mortem examination announced yesterday. His body is to be released back to his family to allow them to make funeral arrangements. Steven Leisk, 34, has appeared in court charged with Scott's murder.

IRA plot foiled

Irish police have foiled an IRA plan to carry out a multimillion-pound bank raid. The IRA's "Dublin Brigade" was plotting to rob a cash shipment from the Allied Irish Bank headquarters in Ballsbridge, Dublin. Police intercepted a van and arrested three men who had been watching the bank for weeks. A file has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Tories' £½m

Conservative Party members have raised £508,000 in a national summer raffle. The figure is almost 10 per cent more than the £466,000 raised at the same time last year. About £400,000 will be returned to constituency bank accounts in proportion to the number of tickets bought. The rest will be shared between Tory Central Office in London and the Scottish Conservative Party.

London mayor to levy tax from drivers

Continued from page 1

50p increase on the present £2 hourly parking meter charge.

But last night, Tories attacked the plans. Steven Norris, the former minister for transport in the capital, said: "I have no doubt that central Government would love to pass the poisoned chalice of road pricing to whoever was the elected mayor. But whether the mayor or the Greater London assembly would be prepared to take it on is another matter.

"There are ways of tackling congestion in London that do not involve road charging."

Mr Norris, who would be a candidate for the mayor's job, added: "I would be very suspicious of the idea that this whole apparatus was merely designed to introduce road pricing by the back door."

The Green Paper's veto on tax-raising powers will blunt one of the Conservatives main lines of attack on the latest milestone in Mr Blair's programme of constitutional reform. Ministers deny they are creating a GLC Mark II, saying the new body will be small and streamlined. The Green Paper, drawn up by Nick Raynsford, the Minister for London, will spell out the powers of the new mayor, who will be directly elected by five million Londoners and command a salary of about £100,000 a year. The Green Paper will also give another boost to electoral reform by backing the introduction of proportional representation in the election of the capital's first representative body since the demise of the GLC over a decade ago.

The new mayor would be elected by an alternative vote system in which Londoners would list candidates in order of preference. The aim would be to ensure that the eventual winner secured over 50 per cent of the vote. To deter "joke candidates", aspiring city bosses will have to put down a sizeable deposit and secure nominations from 1,000 supporters.

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Cotswold village cuts up rough over 'good deed'

Tim Jones on the hotel owner who wants to mow

FOR ten years the verges of a Cotswold village have been kept neat and trim by gardeners employed by the owner of a local hotel. It was a service he was happy to provide to maintain Buckland's picture postcard image.

However, the county council has now ordered him to let the verges grow. Gloucestershire council says members of the parish council objected to the village looking like a municipal park and wanted to see wild flowers growing by the roadside.

"If the council serves me with an *injunction I will go* straight to the High Court," said Roy Vaughan, owner of the Buckland Manor Hotel. "As far as I am concerned I am doing nothing but good for the village. I like beauty and order and that is what I have created."

Mr Vaughan, 70, who lives 10 miles away from the village, said the county council had acted on the recommendations of four of the five members of the parish council. "Only one of them lives in Buckland, so why the other four who live in the next village want to interfere I don't know," he said.

Dr Sheila Fitzgibbon, the parish council chairman, said: "People should be allowed the choice of what happens outside their own property. That is the view we came to."

Vic Sutton, 73, secretary of the parochial church council, believes Mr Vaughan would be happier in suburbia than a *country village.* "Mr Vaughan has completely ignored requests not to cut the grass so short and allow wild flowers *to seed.*"

Dr David Emery, who claims the mower has damaged the wall to his property, said: "The county and parish councils should be supported on environmental and ecological grounds. The village *should* be *managed* and looked after by the villagers themselves and not by some non-resident businessman."

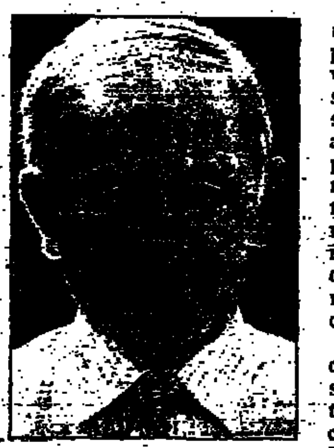
However, a survey of 29 households in the village showed that only five supported the parish council; some residents are demanding a public meeting. John Linton, who organised the survey said: "Many of the people we spoke to felt a tremendous *amount* of anger *towards the* parish council on how this matter was handled. We feel that we are extremely fortunate to have Mr Vaughan mowing the grass verge at his own expense and he should receive an apology from the council."

Philip Miller, the county council's operations manager, said his workmen would cut the verge twice a year. "We *could ask* the police to restrain Mr Vaughan's gardeners from working on the highway because they are probably *committing an offence.*"

Gloucestershire County Council was not available for comment last night, but it is understood that it gave special permission to Mr Vaughan to cut the verges in Buckland, only to rescind it after complaints and consideration of the matter by the parish council.

Ceri Thomas, a writer for the BBC *Gardeners' World* magazine, said most landscapers and professionals preferred to let verges run wild. "The famous example is Peterborough, which is still shown to students as a model of how to let verges grow wild," she said.

"The movement started with the creation of garden cities like Welwyn and is now very popular here and on the *Continent. The benefits are* that you get unusual combinations of plants, especially on motorways where all sorts of *things are spread by lorries.* Planners usually sow a mixture of seeds and let verges grow wild."



Roy Vaughan would be happier in suburbia, says Vic Sutton, below.

NACHELLE CROWTHER

Gary Sexton, head gardener at the Buckland Manor Hotel, cutting the verges

Runaway pair 'are blaming each other'

By Joanna Bale and Tunku Varadarajan

THE runaway boy of 14 found in Florida with a married woman of 33 was said to be suffering from mood swings last night. Sean Kinsella said he was in love with Tracey Whalin, but blamed her for getting him into trouble.

He was playing computer games in a children's home *while Mrs Whalin languished* in jail accused of "lewd and indecent assault". Police said she had asked to speak to "anyone from her family who wants to speak to her" but "We haven't had a single call."

Back home in England, her unemployed husband David was left to consider a deluge of offers for his side of the story. The offers were not thought to be anywhere near the £140,000 bail his wife would need to get out of jail in Plantation Keys, in the event that Mr Whalin felt like *paying.*

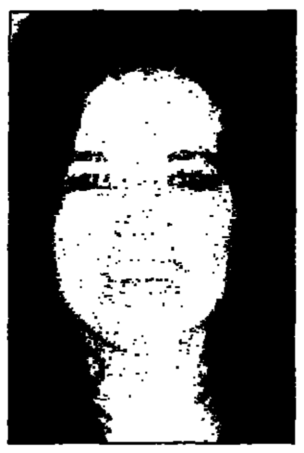
In charge of the negotiations was his sister, Suzanne Elliott, with whom he and his three children, Ross, Jake and Robyn, are staying in Bulwell, Nottingham. One reporter, among several waiting outside the house after delivering their bids, said: "He has been publicly humiliated and we can understand his reluctance to talk, but his side of the story is the one everyone wants."

Sean — a friend of Ross — is expected to fly back to Britain accompnied by his uncle, Ian Anderson, who has signed an exclusive deal with *The Sun,* thought to comprise air fares and accommodation expenses. He will be reunited with his mother Beryl. She too has been inundated with offers. One sticking point is that if *British police, who are due to* fly to Florida on Monday, bring Mrs Whalin home and charge her, Sean becomes a *minor subject to court* proceedings, and cannot be identified in any way. Mrs Whalin faces up to 20 years in prison if she stays in Florida, where she is also charged with interfering with Sean's custody. She is due for arraignment on August 12.

Detectives say she has confessed to having a passionate sexual affair for over a year with the boy who plays in the same football team as her son. *She told them it was Sean's* idea that they should abscond together to America. They were traced to a seaside holiday complex after Sean rang his mother.

Deputy Becky Herrin of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department said that Mrs Whalin would remain imprisoned until she posted bail. She said: "Mrs Whalin is being held in our correctional facility, in a cell that's 10ft x 20 ft. It's simple, with a bed, sink, table and toilet. There's no television."

Inmates at the children's centre where Sean is staying said he was suffering from mood swings about his feelings for Mrs Whalin. A 16-year-old girl said he told her: "She has got me into enough trouble as it is." Then he repeatedly said he "loved" the woman and he was "heartbroken" that he was not with her.



Whalin: hoping for a family call

Jail guard might be murder victim

A PRISON guard whose body was found two years after his unexplained disappearance could have been murdered, an inquest was told yesterday.

Peter Curran, 38, was an officer at Whitemoor maximum security prison, Cambridgeshire, the scene of a failed IRA breakout attempt in September 1994. Eight months *later, in May 1995, he* was suspended from his job amid allegations that he had been smuggling toiletries to in*mates. Two days later,* he went missing from his home in the nearby town of March.

In February this year police dredging a lonely dyke for stolen cars found Mr Curran's body strapped inside his submerged car. His wife Christine believes that he was unlawfully killed, disputing police investigators' conclusion that his death could have been as a result of a driving accident or a suicide.

The inquest into his death at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, was told that Mrs Curran believes her husband's death had nothing to do with his suspension, but involved something more sinister. Michael Mansfield, *QC, for* Mrs Curran, had requested a jury inquest "in the interests of justice", but his application was refused by William Morris, the coroner.

Mr Mansfield linked Mr Curran's death to that of another prison officer who worked on the same wing at Whitemoor Prison. Marcia Whitehurst died in a road accident while on her way to give evidence at the trial of the IRA men accused of taking part in the 1994 escape attempt.

The inquest was adjourned until Monday.

Tribunal throws out miscarriage WPC's claim

By Kathryn Knight

WHEN WPC Siobhan Adcock-Kersting became pregnant last year she was put on light duties by her senior officer. Later, when she miscarried, he advised her to take some time off to recover.

Instead WPC Adcock-Kersting, an officer with eight *years' experience, returned to* work in the domestic violence unit of the north London force and brought a sex discrim*ination case against the Met*ropolitan Police.

Yesterday the 30-year-old officer's case was dismissed after a tribunal chairwoman told her the police had her best intersts at heart. The tribunal was told that WPC Adcock-Kersting, who is now three months' pregnant, had been placed on lighter duties than her usual work in the unit in St John's Wood, north London, when she became pregnant early last year.

She then miscarried in May and was advised to take some time off but returned to work on June 18. Two months later, she had to take eight months' sick leave because of stress.

Giving evidence, WPC Adcock-Kersting said she had been deeply shocked by the advice of her officers and felt her miscarriage had been used to force her out. "Having a *miscarriage should not have* prevented me from getting back into my original job. I was completely shocked and *stunned* because I wanted to go back," she said.

Detective Inspector William Price told the tribunal that he had only WPC Adcock Kersting's well-being in mind. "If I had allowed the officer back into that environment I would have been accused of being totally uncaring and totally unsympathetic by staff," he said.

"When she told me she was preganant I explained she would be placed on light duties. At first she complained this was unnecessary — she was *concerned this was* a criticism — but I explained this was a regulation force policy for pregnant women. The object was so she would not put herself at risk."

He said he had gone to see WPC Adcock-Kersting after her miscarriage, taking wine and chocolates from colleagues. "I told her there was no immediate need for her to return to work and she should take her time to get herself back together again and not to worry about the job," he said.

"It was my opinion she should not go back into a stressful environment taking into account all that had gone on before. If it was a man I *would have acted in exactly* the same way."

WPC Adcock-Kersting: miscarried last year

Sex abuse priest is jailed for 12 years

By Audrey Magee
Ireland Correspondent

THE Catholic Church in Ireland faces massive claims for compensation after a paedophile priest, Brendan Smyth — *whose case lead to* the collapse of the 1994 Irish Government — was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment *yesterday for sexually abusing* children as young as six.

Six people in Northern Ireland and the Republic are currently suing the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland for failing to protect them against Smyth. Many more of his victims are now expected to follow suit.

At Dublin's central criminal court, Smyth, 69, admitted 74 charges of abuse against 20 boys and girls over 36 years until 1993. The priest, a member of the Roman Catholic Norbertine Order, said his crimes were "sins against God, offences against the individual persons and offences against the laws of the State".

Judge Cyril Kelly said: "The kindly man became the bogey man ... cloaked in the veneer of Christian teaching and ecclestical dogma."

Smyth, from Ballyjamesduff in Co Cavan, was wanted for similar offences in Northern Ireland. In 1994 the RUC requested his extradition, which split the Irish government and Albert Reynolds, the then Prime Minister, was forced to resign. Smyth was finally extradited to Northern Ireland where he was jailed for four years in 1994 for eight offences. The next year he was convicted on eight further charges and jailed for two more years.

£70 million damages, page 15

Six savaged by brain-damaged squirrel

By Nick Nuttall

A SQUIRREL said to have "something *wrong* with its brain" shattered the peace of the genteel London suburb of Hampstead yesterday when it ran amok biting six people.

The beast attacked one women after landing on her head while as she read in her garden. Another person suffered a bite on the leg. All the victims needed hospital treatment. The marauder was only halted when a building worker, restoring a house, dealt him a fatal blow with a spade. The squirrel had already inflicted a nasty cut on him. An expert on squirrels at Camden council said: "It was demanding food with menaces. We think it was regularly fed by people when it was younger, and when the feeding stopped it became aggressive in its efforts to get food from humans." The squirrel probably had something wrong with its brain.

Harry Pepper, of the Forestry Commission's Alice Holt research station near Farnham, Surrey, said: "Grey squirrels can be aggressive but normally only when they are provoked or cornered." Mr Pepper said red squirrels, which are being ousted by the invading North American greys across Britain, were far more timid.

A spokeswoman for the Chartered Institute of Environmenal Health Officers, said people should remember that squirrels are rodents. "People do not think of them as rats. But they are really tree rats with design improvements."

The council spokesman said they had been alerted to the squirrel by a local GP who had asked that it was trapped humanely. But before an officer could locate it, the builder had dispatched it with his spade.

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Blair overshadows Uxbridge defection

Activist protests at Government's behaviour, reports **Polly Newton**

MARTIN BEDDALL

Tony Blair meeting the people of Uxbridge yesterday when he broke with convention to visit the Tory seat in support of Andrew Slaughter

TONY BLAIR was given a pop star's welcome yesterday when he paid a campaigning visit to west London ahead of next Thursday's Uxbridge by-election. Crowds demanded his autograph, grabbed his hand and ruffled his hair.

As Labour activists formed a protective cordon around the Prime Minister, he signed at least two plaster casts — one on the arm of a five-year-old boy called Kenneth Clark — and assorted bits of Labour literature as he made his way through the streets.

Prime ministers have traditionally stayed away from by-election campaigns on the grounds that they could be tainted by a failure to win the seat, but Mr Blair said he thought it was a "daft" convention. "Whatever the situation, whatever the result, what's important is you come down and say, look, this is what the Government is doing."

The excitement surrounding the visit overshadowed an announcement by a long-time Labour activist that he had decided to back the Tories. Michael Shrimpton, a party member since 1981, switched sides hours before Mr Blair's arrival.

Shrimpton: said to have history of changing sides

At a press conference with Lord Parkinson, the Conservative Party chairman, Mr Shrimpton said he was "appalled" at the way Labour had behaved since entering government. "I have been alarmed at the way the party has thrown its weight about in Parliament after the election." He said he disagreed with Labour on the constitution, Europe, defence and the economy.

Mr Shrimpton, a lawyer who stood for Labour in Horsham in 1987, had hoped to be the party's by-election candidate in Uxbridge and his actions were dismissed by Labour as sour grapes.

Mr Blair described the announcement as "just the Tories up to their old tricks again". He added: "This is somebody who put himself forward as the candidate for the by-election for Labour a few weeks ago and now the Conservatives say he has defected to them. I think there is something very odd about that."

However, Mr Shrimpton said he had never expected to be selected to fight the seat. He had thought that Labour would choose David Williams, who was the party's candidate in the general election. "The fact that he wasn't even shortlisted astonished me." Mr Shrimpton said. "I know, having gone through the selection process, that it alarmed and astonished many in the Uxbridge party.

"I know there is deep concern within the Labour Party at the way the Government is behaving and the way the party machine is becoming centralised and overriding the wishes of local constituency activists."

Labour said Mr Shrimpton had a history of changing parties. Bill Rammell, Labour MP for Harlow, who was at Cardiff University with him, said he had been elected president of the union as a Conservative in 1981. "Then he defected to the SDP, boasting that he was the first Conservative president to do so. He then switched to Labour within months, moving finally to the Socialist Workers' Party when I got the official Labour nomination for president in 1982."

Mr Williams, who reduced the Tory majority in Uxbridge to 724 in the general election, was kept off the by-election shortlist by the party's National Executive Committee. From the choice of candidates they were offered, the Uxbridge party opted for Andrew Slaughter, leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council.

Yesterday, Peter James, a local Labour councillor, claimed that at least 30 party activists in Uxbridge were boycotting the campaign — a figure dismissed by a Labour spokesman as "a gross exaggeration".

The Conservative candidate, John Randall, has strong Uxbridge roots and is the managing director of a town centre department store, Randalls.

Mr Blair's visit was aimed at shifting voters' attention away from the "local candidate" issue and onto the achievements of Labour so far in government. Labour strategists believe that focusing on the national picture will maximise their chances of winning the seat, which was left vacant by the death of Sir Michael Shersby a week after the election.

☐ General election: Sir M Shersby (C) 18,095; D Williams (Lab) 17,371; A Malyan (LD) 4,528; G Aird (Ref) 1,153; J Leonard (Soc) 398.

Saltwater delicacy could soup up RAF combat aircraft

By Michael Evans
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE sea cucumber could one day do more for combat jets than all the mechanical engineering and avionic developments of recent years, Ministry of Defence researchers have discovered.

The sea cucumber, gastronomically known as *bêche-de-mer* and consumed as a delicacy — particularly its sex organs — in China, has properties that scientists are trying to copy to make combat aircraft faster and more manoueverable.

Sea cucumbers can become hard or soft at will, with the help of the natural magnesium and calcium ions found in sea water. Scientists have found it may be possible to adapt the sea cucumber's body changes to structural materials. A "sea cucumber" jet could go soft when in flight, providing maximum flexibility. The wings could even face forwards, guaranteeing a different scale of aerodynamics. Researchers believe such aircraft would travel further and faster.

The scientists at the ministry's Defence Evaluation and Research Agency in Farnborough, Hampshire, where the work is being carried out, call it "aero-elastic tailoring".

Paul Curtis, head of polymer (synthetic) composites and smart materials at Dera, is so convinced of the importance of the sea cucumber that he predicts a demonstration of the new technology could be ready in three to five years and a practical version flying in ten years.

The sea cucumber, a marine invertebrate, has a soft cylindrical body, which can vary from ¾ inch to 6½ ft long and is between ½ in and 8 in thick. In response to a threat it wedges itself into a crevice and stiffens its body so that predators cannot extract it.

Scientists engaged in biomimetics — the science of mimicking nature — who had already successfully produced Velcro by observing the way pollen stuck to plants, became convinced that if sea cucumbers could stiffen at will, so could man-made materials. They realised that a hard/soft capability could have other uses, such as for vehicle suspensions. Professor Curtis said: "This idea of copying nature has only been going for a few years. The concept of the spider's web, for example, has helped us to develop synthetic man-made carbon fibres. You can't copy nature exactly but you can copy the ideas. We know that sea cucumbers need the magnesium and calcium ions in sea water to stiffen up and then relax, so we're working on ways of adopting the same approach."

Professor Curtis said the plan was to develop a material that would have varying stiffness, providing greater manoeuvrability for jet aircraft.

The idea would be for combat aircraft to have special computers on board that would dictate automatically when the structure of a fighter jet should stiffen or become more malleable, by changing the chemical materials, depending on the circumstances.

A one-year contract was given to Reading University to study the sea cucumber. Researchers there demonstrated that it had more potential uses for man than had been previously supposed.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Officers to be charged over rings

Two police officers face disciplinary charges over the disappearance of jewellery worth £10,000, the Police Complaints Authority said yesterday.

The items had been confiscated during a raid on a house in Suffolk last July and taken to Bury St Edmunds police station. When efforts were made to return the two rings to the owner three months later they could not be found. The officers are to be charged with neglect of duty and disobedience to orders.

Knopfler fined

Mark Knopfler, singer and guitarist with Dire Straits, was fined £740 at Andover, Hampshire, after he admitted driving at 102mph, in his Range Rover on the A303. Knopfler, 47, had been on his way to see his children at their West Country school.

Swampy guilty

An arrest warrant was issued for the anti-road protester Daniel Hooper, known as Swampy, after he failed to attend a court hearing. Crewe magistrates convicted him of threatening behaviour and causing damage at the Manchester Airport runway site.

Salaries delayed

A computer fault at the Royal Bank of Scotland means that salaries paid by 5,500 companies will not go into employees' accounts until Monday. Arrangements are being made with other banks to enable the 80,000 people affected to withdraw cash over the weekend.

Pop star waits

Judgment was reserved until October in a High Court case against the former Take That star Robbie Williams. Nigel Martin-Smith, the group's founder and manager, is claiming commission from Williams, who quit for a solo career in 1995.

Marriages fail

The number of marriage breakdowns in Ireland has more than doubled in ten years, from 37,000 in 1986 to 87,800 last year, according to analysis of the latest census. Four per cent of family units are made up of co-habitees rather than married couples.

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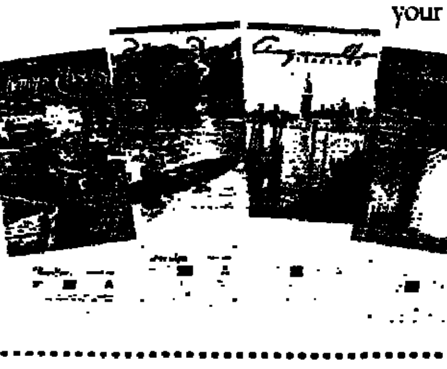

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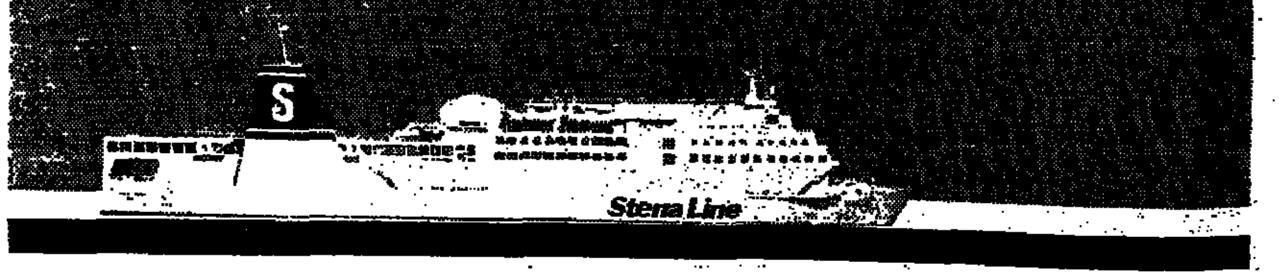

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Judge calls for investigation into baby's injuries

Boy born with brain damage raises fears of a cover-up, says Richard Duce

A JUDGE yesterday called on the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate a possible hospital cover-up of events that left a baby with "catastrophic" brain damage.

For five years Philip and Nicki Wade have been trying to establish how their son Ben suffered asphyxia during his birth at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. Last December the couple, whose son needs 24-hour care, accepted damages of £1.4 million from Winchester Health Authority which offered the settlement but denied liability.

However, the authority, now the North and Mid Hampshire Health Authority, then issued a press statement admitting that after an full internal inquiry "there has been some shortcomings by a member of staff who has since left the hospital".

The statement was at odds with an affadavit from David Hewett, assistant medical director at the hospital, and signed seven months earlier, which said there had been no full investigation and no shortcomings. At a High Court hearing yesterday, Judge Roger Cox took the rare step of asking the DPP to examine the possibility that the authority had tried to cover up the circumstances of Ben's injuries. He said the conflict of evidence was a "matter I take very seriously indeed."

Huw Lloyd, for the authority, told the judge that it "unreservedly apologised" for distress caused to Mr and Mrs Wade but said the press statement had been wrong and the affadavit correct.

Yesterday's hearing had been set for Mr Wade to make it known that he and his family would be accepting a lump sum payment in damages rather than a structured settlement for Ben. After the hearing Mr Wade, 39, a film maker from Winchester, said: "I want to get to the truth. If there was something wrong done I would like to know."

The obstetric registrar in charge of Ben's delivery in October 1991 has left the hospital and is now understood to be working in America. Ben suffered asphyxia at birth and is permanently physically and mentally handicapped. He is blind, epileptic, quadriplegic and severely mentally handicapped. One medical expert described him as "about the most severely handicapped child" she had ever seen.

Philip Havers, QC, for Ben, told the judge earlier that it was "impossible to exaggerate the dedication and commitment shown by his parents to his care, which has inevitably been very much to the detriment of their own lives."

Mrs Wade, 35, who has a two-year-old son called Oliver, lost her job as a teacher because of the time she needed to take care of Ben.

Anne Winyard, the family's solicitor, said yesterday: "Liability was denied all along and there was relief for the family when the case was settled and they could get on with the rest of their lives.

"But that relief was then set at nought by this miserable episode. The media statement was issued after the case was settled and it was really horrible for the family to be told all along that the hospital staff did nothing wrong and then read there had been shortcomings by a member of staff.

"I think it is just miserable. Ben's life has been ruined and his family's lives altered forever," she added.

"It isn't going to make Ben any better but we hope the money will provide for his care. All the family want now is to get on with their lives in peace. But they have the right to know what happened."

Frank O'Sullivan, assistant chief executive of the Winchester and Eastleigh health trust, which now runs the hospital where Ben was born, said last night he was unable to comment on the judge's remarks.

JOAN RUSSELL

Oasis fans chase tour tickets

***Oasis fans prepare for an* overnight wait in Sheffield yesterday for tickets for the band's 13-date nationwide tour which go on sale this morning. The scene was repeated at tour venues in London, Aberdeen, Birmingham, Newcastle and Exeter, where fans slept rough overnight. A Freephone number — 0800 1353333 — has been set up for fans to book the 156,000 tickets for the September tour. With only a limited number available from box offices, telephone operators are braced for a flood of calls and 300 telephone lines will open today to sell the bulk of the tickets. BT and Torch Telecom have been liaising for several weeks to ensure that the national network can cope with the expected demand. The band's record label, Creation, estimates that tickets will sell out by this evening. They will cost £17.50, or £19 for the three shows in London, plus a £1.50 booking charge.**

Woman is arrested in drownings inquiry

By Stephen Farrell

A WOMAN has been arrested and interviewed by police following the deaths of two girls at a riverside barbecue on Monday. Charlea Fox and Jasmine Neville, both 8, drowned after being swept away by currents in a shallow stretch of the River Wharfe near Otley, west Yorkshire.

West Yorkshire Police said the deaths were not being treated as suspicious, but a file would be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service to consider charges. The unnamed woman was released on police bail after being interviewed on Thursday. A police spokeswoman said: "She has been interviewed in connection with the inquiry, but not in connection with the deaths."

The bodies of Jasmine and Charlea — who was celebrating her birthday — were found by police divers in 9ft of water a few yards from where they disappeared at 7pm at a popular picnic spot known as Sandy Beach. They were being supervised by a friend's mother after other parents left to take their children home. The pair are thought to have got into difficulties while the woman's attention was distracted by two suspicious men on the riverbank after her son had left the water. She raised the alarm by running to a house half a mile away.

The incident happened the day after Russell Hardacre, 31, from Bradford, was drowned in the same river a few miles upstream. An inquest will be opened on Monday at Leeds Coroner's Court.

Penthouse gets fit for the coffee table

By Carol Midgley
Media Correspondent

AFTER 32 years of being furtively plucked from the top shelf, *Penthouse*, "the magazine for men", is being forced to revamp its image to halt plummeting sales.

The publication, whose pinup pages have outraged generations of women's rights groups, says that degrading pictures of women do not appeal to Nineties Man.

Monthly sales of *Penthouse* in Britain have fallen from 150,000 in the 1960s to 20,000 today. Market research carried out by the parent company, Lancaster Publications, found that men were weary of glamour magazines, which they considered embarrassing to be seen with.

Penthouse's executives say they want to produce a magazine fit for the coffee table. Designers have been brought in from style magazines including *ID* and *Arena* to reclaim *Penthouse* from the "dirty mac brigade". The project is being headed by Andrew Cameron, former managing director of Express Newspapers, who joined as president of the company last year.

However, the relaunch is unlikely to persuade high street retailers such as W. H. Smith to end their ban on stocking it. The magazine will still feature naked women, but, insist the editors, depicted more stylishly.

Tom Hilditch, the editor, said modern men wanted to see "intelligent, confident and real women in erotic poses".

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هكذا ورد الأصل

Labour launches investigation into four accused councillors

BY JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR is preparing to take tough disciplinary action against councillors in the Yorkshire stronghold of Doncaster after a series of allegations of fraud and corruption.

On Wednesday the party's National Executive Committee will open an investigation into four people who have been suspended from the Labour group on Doncaster council after being accused of misusing links with local developers. It will also announce that the Doncaster district party is to be suspended, which will enable national officials to choose candidates for council elections.

Doncaster council is now under investigation by the police and the district auditor over earlier allegations relating to foreign trips, expenses, hospitality and free gifts.

Labour's inquiry, to be carried out by an NEC working party, will look at whether the councillors should be expelled and whether anyone else should be disciplined. Labour sources believe that other councillors may be suspended after the inquiries of the district auditor and the police. The NEC is expected to back an internal recommendation to suspend Doncaster Labour Party, whose main responsibility is to draw up a list of candidates for the local elections in May.

Senior party officials will announce that an NEC panel will be set up to select a list of potential candidates, to ensure that no one linked with the present allegations is allowed to remain as a councillor. The four senior councillors who have been suspended are Peter Birks, former council leader, Peter Welsh, deputy leader, Ray Stockhill, and John Quinn.

A senior party spokesman said that the Prime Minister was determined to act whenever Labour councils were accused of wrongdoing. "Because most councils are Labour-controlled there are likely to be far more instances involving our party than the Tories," the spokesman said. "But unlike the Tories, who failed to act over Westminster council, we will clean out our own stables."

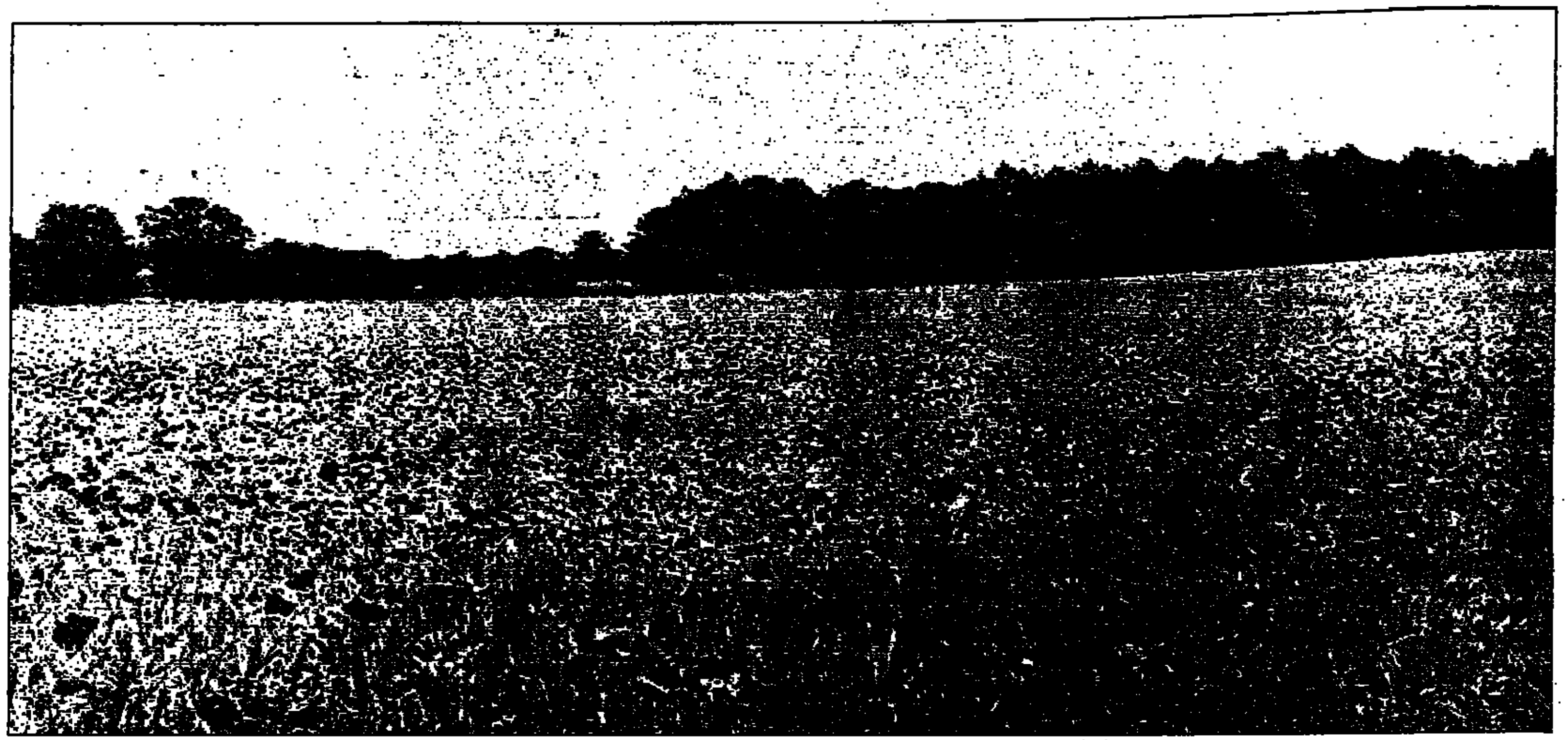
Senior Labour officials have been alarmed about the allegations for several months. The district auditor has finished an investigation into the alleged misuse of foreign trips and is conducting another into the planning allegations. The council is also holding an inquiry, which is expected to report in August. Caroline Flint, the recently elected MP for Don Valley, welcomed the action taken at local, regional and national level to "put our house in order". She pointed out that the party had acted promptly where it had the power, pending the outcome of various inquiries.

Ms Flint was selected as Labour's candidate for Don Valley after the NEC by-election panel imposed a shortlist owing to the allegations of corruption in Doncaster. One of the suspended councillors, Peter Welsh, had been trying for the same seat.

The action in Doncaster follows the NEC's decision this month to suspend Mohammed Sarwar, MP for Glasgow Govan, over allegations that he bribed a rival general election candidate. But it is some time since the party has taken disciplinary action against a council. Two years ago Labour chiefs suspended Walsall Labour Party over alleged intimidation after claims that Labour councillors took a free holiday at ratepayers' expense. In the same year, Mr Blair ordered the inquiry and suspension of all 15 Labour councillors in Monklands after allegations of favouritism in allocating council jobs. Labour also suspended five councillors in Hackney over allegations of fraud last year.

Party elite lived high life in rotten borough

Dominic Kennedy investigates allegations of foreign junkets and drunken raceday outings in Doncaster



Poppy fields at Branton, Doncaster, are now covered by housing and a road after planning permission was given for development there

AMONG the dole queues and discount stores of south Yorkshire, a group of councillors found a way to see the world and drink until they dropped.

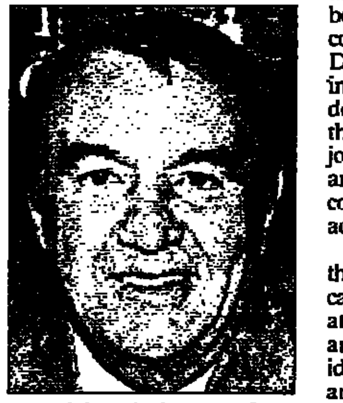
The Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster, a Labour bastion since its creation in 1974, has become a embarrassment to the national party as one of the rottenest of boroughs in the old Labour heartlands.

A 20-strong special team of South Yorkshire police, the District Auditor, Labour's National Executive Committee and the council's own officials are all holding separate inquiries into allegations ranging from worldwide junkets at Club Class to suggestions that some councillors may have helped friendly property developers seeking planning permission in the Green Belt.

The planning committee chairman, Peter Birks, was found to have been living in a farmhouse bought by a developer who was allowed to turn a protected poppy field in open countryside into an upmarket housing estate, despite dogged opposition from villagers.

Four senior councillors have already been suspended from Doncaster's ruling Labour group and a replacement "new Labour" leadership elected as the party prepares for next May's local elections. Voters will then be able to deliver their verdict on the scandal locals call "Donnygate". An "anti-sleaze" candidate in Doncaster North at the general election attracted 1,181 votes but failed to dent the 22,000 Labour majority.

The police investigation, named the Danum inquiry after the Roman name for Doncaster, is operating from an incident room opposite the council's administrative offices with officers studying official papers and taking statements over allegations of fraudulent expenses claims by some councillors and council officers, and the placement of contracts and planning applications.



Birks: chairman of planning committee

Among the District Auditor's outstanding concerns are expenses-paid travel between Doncaster and the newest of its five twin towns, Wilmington in North Carolina, where councillors flew on £2,100 Club Class tickets although economy fare was available for £310.

Originally the borough, like many English towns, had a German twin Herten and a French twin, Avion. It then chose to establish a link with a Polish mining community, Gliwice, ("not a very nice place — one of our councillors went and he was ill for a fortnight because of the pollution," a colleague told *The Times*) and Dandong in China ("a pretty impoverished area — you deserved a medal for getting there because it's an 18-hour journey by train from Peking and the loo is a hole in the corner of the coach," he added.)

When councillors learned that Dandong had an American twin, Wilmington, an attractive, affluent coastal area they decided it would be ideal to make official twinning arrangements. One of those on the first official delegation to the United States was John Dainty, who leads the puny three-strong Conservative opposition against the massed ranks of 58 Labour councillors (there are also two Liberals).

"With Club Class you have the private room at the airport, you are not in with the great unwashed," said Mr Dainty, who admits that he was naive to travel in such style at public expense. "There's free drink and nuts and things like that."

The District Auditor, Gordon Sutton, who delayed retirement to complete a "public interest" report on the borough expected by earlier autumn, is still querying a week-long trip last year by a seven-strong delegation to North Carolina to compare American social services with Doncaster's (they decided Doncaster was better served), which included a visit to an Oceanic restaurant on the coast and a theatre trip.

Another party went to Chicago to study out-of-town development and there have been expenses-paid jaunts to Japan, Hong Kong, China and Sweden without formal approval. During a trip to Prague, a single bottle of brandy cost £100.

Free drink is the norm for a Doncaster councillor on duty. There is always fierce competition to be selected for a sub-committee of the Trading Services Committee which deals with markets and abattoirs, called the "race committee".

The committee supervises Doncaster's famous municipal racecourse, home of the St Leger, and meets, however short the agenda, every time there is weekday racing. This enables members to have a free lunch then relax in their own special box where drinks are complimentary all day. "It has been known that members have been carried out of there horizontal and put in taxis to take them home," said Mr Dainty.

All 63 councillors are given two free tickets for every race day, a perk worth £500 a year alone. At one race meeting, councillors found complimentary raffle tickets on their seats with prizes including an expenses-paid trip to the Kentucky Derby.

The former council leader Peter Welsh, now suspended from the Labour group, was pictured at the racecourse with a Conservative councillor Kate Bannard on his lap: both divorced, they have become a couple. When Lord Wakeham, the Tory peer and chairman of the Betting Levy Board was chief guest at a St Leger dinner, some councillors became drunk and one started using uncouth language while another had to be carried out, "blind drunk", by two attendants, his feet dangling in the air.

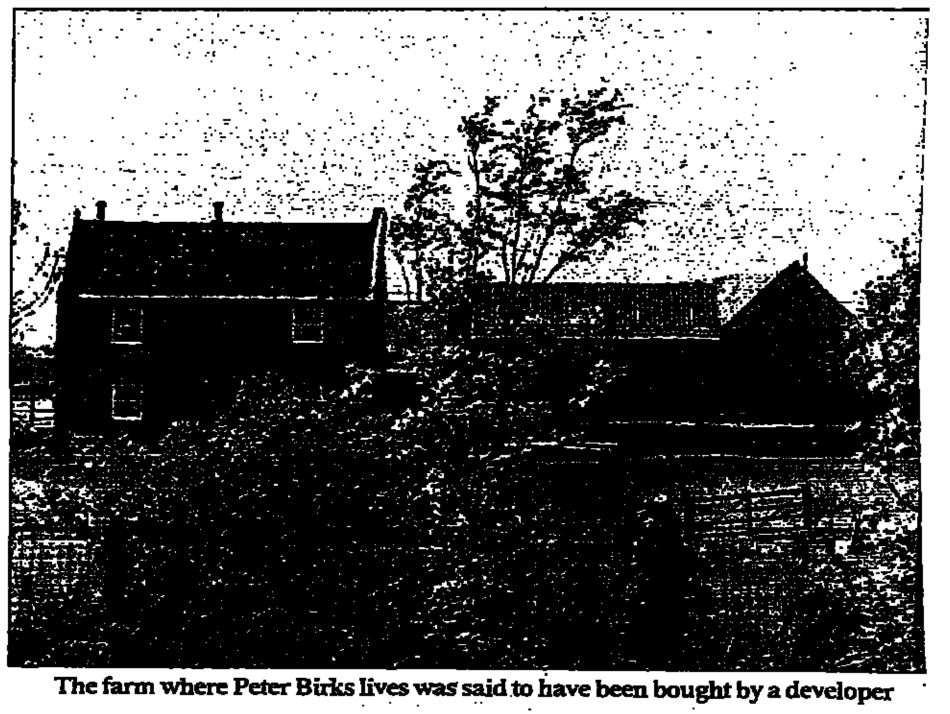
Doncaster's Borough Solicitor and the Director of Social Services are conducting an inquiry, expected to produced interim findings in August, after the resignations of Mr Welsh, a former mineworker, as leader of the council, and his deputy Ray Stockhill, a former lorry driver, and the suspension and early retirement of the chief executive, Doug Hale, and the release from his contract of John Smith, the finance director.

On another occasion, some councillors were taken on a coach to a former mining village to spend 20 minutes visiting a new office dealing with housing problems, then bused back for a sit-down lunch in the great kitchen of the splendid 18th century Mansion House, built when the town had a thriving market and plenty of rich merchants.

"They opened the bar and some of them had two or three drinks pre-lunch," said Mr Dainty, who left the function early. "All of a sudden they start bringing bottles of wine round and then liqueurs; they were carrying them out."

The council issued 27 credit cards, one of which was used, according to Mr Dainty, to buy rounds of drinks for a council group in the early hours at an expensive Manchester Hotel. The former leader had use of a Jaguar and there were two chauffeur-driven cars to enable councillors to get home from functions.

Houses built on the disputed site in Doncaster, known as Branton Grange



The farm where Peter Birks lives was said to have been bought by a developer

Four councillors were suspended from the Labour group this month when the *Yorkshire Post* alleged that Mr Birks, the planning chairman, had moved from a council bungalow to a £175,000 19th-century listed farmhouse bought by Alan Hughes, a developer. Mr Hughes was given permission to build on fields in Branton in 1993 despite opposition from villagers.

When the council planning officials asked councillors to comment on the 10-year blueprint for housing, the Unitary Development Plan, they were astonished that some members proposed an extra 5,000 unneeded homes in countryside, potentially inflating land values for the owners by millions of pounds.

All 12 planning officials rebelled and sent a confidential memorandum to the planning director, David Ellis saying: "It is our strong belief that we cannot, as officer take this stance, irrespective c the ultimate member dec sions, without damaging ou professional integrity an credibility and ultimately tha of the borough council."

Peter Welsh with Kate Bannard, a Tory councillor

Mr Dainty, referring to th traditionally respectabl working-class culture that pervaded the authority, said: "You never went to council meetings without collar and tie and even suits on," although he admitted he was "laughed out of court" when the Tories proposed a drink ban in the council.

Doncaster, which was Conservative-run during part of the 1960s, has been solidly Labour since the new, enlarged metropolitan district was created in 1974 to include many of the outlying mining villages which have since lost their collieries and most of their jobs.

Since the early 1980s, the Labour group has been dominated by the Mining Community Group, representing the former pit communities, who out-manoeuvred councillors from the town.

Eighteen months ago a letter delivered to Tony Blair's father-in-law, the actor Tony Booth, by a friend, Ron Rose, a playwright and former borough councillor, was passed on to the Labour leader. "It looks," says Mr Dainty, "that Tony Blair has got his finger on it; whether it's Doncaster or anywhere else where there is a smell of a scandal, they [party officials] will go in."

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Wreck treasure hunters may get sinking feeling

Simon de Bruxelles reports on the hunt for a £50m chest of gold. But has the box already been emptied?

IT HAS been presented as the richest shipwreck in British waters: an estimated £50 million worth of treasure lying just a few dozen yards off the rocky north Cornwall coast.

As salvage work resumed on the *Hanover* this week after the lifting of a temporary government ban, private investors who have put £1 million into the project were anxiously waiting to discover if they will see more for their money than a few ancient timbers and artefacts.

Contemporary records seem to cast doubt on claims by the salvage company raising the wreck that much of its precious cargo still lies on the seabed at Hanover Cove, near Cligga Head.

The *Hanover* was a packet ship carrying the Royal Mail from Lisbon to Falmouth when, in December 1763, it ran into a severe storm. On board were 27 crew and 40 wealthy passengers.

The storm drove the two-masted square-rigger onto rocks with the loss of all but three of those on board. The vessel and its cargo, which included an iron chest said to contain £60,000 in gold, sank quickly and became wedged in a gully where it was soon covered in sand.

Attempts to raise funds for the salvage operation began two years ago when Colin Martin, a diving enthusiast who had heard tales of the *Hanover* and made 50 dives in search of it, found the ship's bell. Earlier this month, after raising funds from private speculators, Mr Martin and his 30 volunteer divers towed a platform over the wreck site and used underwater vacuum hoses to remove 20ft of sand.

Although the wreck is just 12ft to 30ft deep depending on the tides, it is in an area of strong currents and a heavy swell. The platform is jacked up on four legs and the divers, who work in shifts, are lowered to the seabed in baskets.

Mr Martin says that his ambition is to raise and restore the wreck, which would be the only Falmouth packet to be preserved. He intends to display the 140ft ship in a visitors' centre. To pay for the enormous cost of the salvage and restoration, however, investors have been tempted by tales of riches.

There is little doubt that the *Hanover* carried a large amount of money. Most of it belonged to the Crown and was in an iron chest. However, contemporary records suggest that much was salvaged in the two years after the wreck sank.

One authority on wrecks said: "It would be a mistake to think they were unable to conduct a salvage operation in those days, especially when so much money was at stake. They would have used diving bells and grappling hooks to fish up anything moveable. And they could certainly hold their breath long enough to dive to the relatively shallow depths in which the wreck lay.

"Everyone with a boat from miles around would have been out there. In any case the amount of wealth said to be on board seems to me ludicrous."

Evidence that gold was recovered from the beach as well as the wreck is contained in the *Exeter Mercury* of December 16, 1763, which recorded that the collector of customs at St Ives hired 60 men to scour the bay. They found large numbers of gold coins.

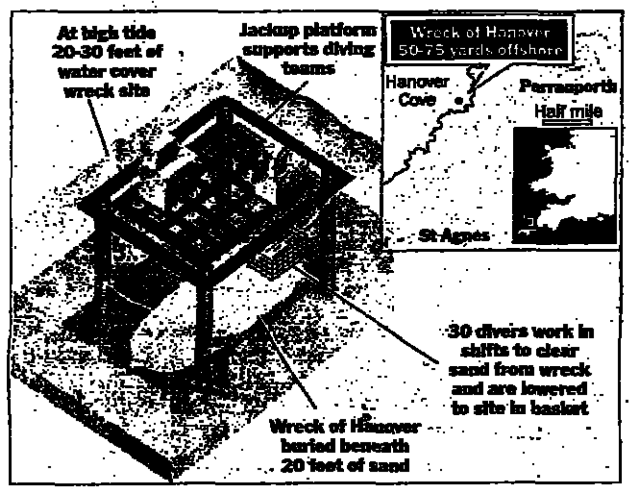
Two years later, in a case which set a precedent in marine insurance, a recipient of the insurance payout was ordered to repay the sum he had received after salvaging an iron chest containing gold.

Hydrasalve, the company set up by Mr Martin to raise the *Hanover*, refuses to discuss the evidence for the claim that £50 million worth of treasure remains on board.

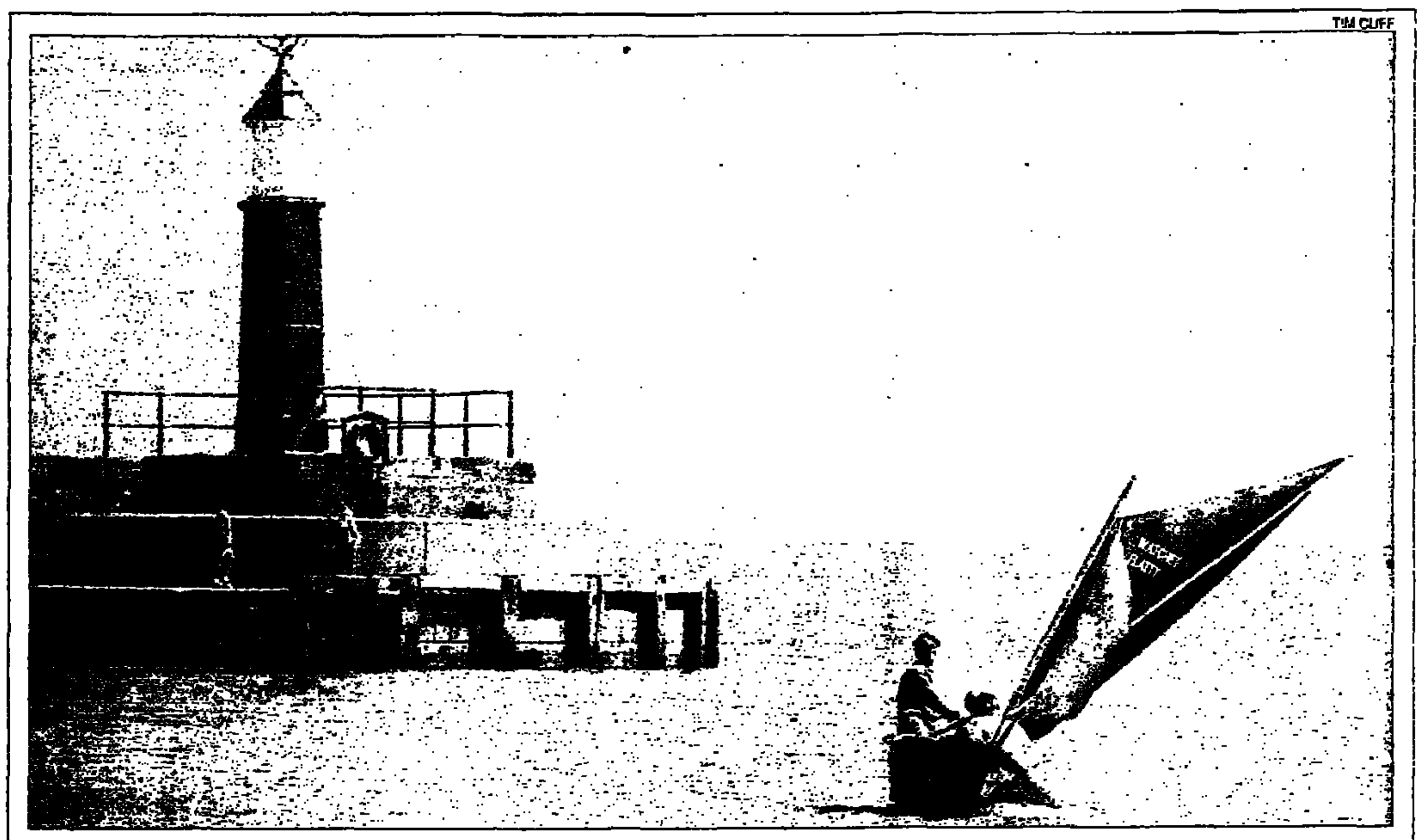
Hydrasalve said: "This is a process that, once started, has to be completed. Without its protective covering of sand the action of the tides could do serious damage to the wreck in a very short time."

Hydrasalve will not disclose whether it has yet recovered anything of value, although it has located 14 of the ship's 40 cannon which are being stored on the seabed prior to lifting. If the wreck is intact, as Mr Martin believes, it will be raised in two pieces and transferred to shore on a barge capable of carrying up to 100 tons.

Conservation work expected to last two years will begin at once. Storage tanks are waiting at Hydrasalve's headquarters in Portreath ready for the first artefacts.


At high tide 20-30 feet of water cover wreck site
Jackup platform supports diving teams
Wreck of Hanover 50-75 yards offshore
Hanover Cove
Perranporth
Half mile
St Agnes
30 divers work in shifts to clear sand from wreck and are lowered to site in basket
Wreck of Hanover buried beneath 20 feet of sand

TIM CUFF



Under full sail, the boat left by Ancient Mariner

THIS sight of a flat-bottomed boat with its tan sail and brightly painted hull would have been familiar to Samuel Taylor Coleridge's Ancient Mariner when he set sail on his fateful voyage from the Bristol Channel port of Watchet. Yesterday the first "Watchet flatty" to be built in more than 100 years left the harbour (Simon de Bruxelles writes).

Local legend has it that Watchet's fortunes began to fail when the flatties were overtaken by progress, rather like the mariner running into bad luck over his albatross. Designed for the choppy, tidal waters of the Bristol Channel, they were used for fishing, hauling peat, reed gathering and fetching coal. The 19ft 6in remake has been modelled on old photographs and the remains of the only surviving example.

Derek Vivian, 55, was one of a group of enthusiasts who built the boat, named *Yankee Jack* after a writer of sea shanties who lived in a cottage on the harbour early this century. He said: "They were practical as well as pretty. We have weather that can change from one moment to the next. The tide goes out vast distances leaving expanses of rocks, mud and sand. If the weather worsened, they would make for the beach, fill the boat with stones and collect it when the tide went down."

Coleridge was living near by at Nether Stowey when he wrote *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* in 1798. Originally, the sides of a flatty were elm, but planks of the right quality are hard to obtain today, so the team used Scandinavian redwood for the cambering.

Mr Vivian hopes that other boat builders might be inspired to revive the design: "It might be the key to the town's revival. Some of the old people round here still remember them in regular use before the Second World War."

Storm of the century, Weekend, page 1

Chichester feat remembered

A MEMORIAL to Sir Francis Chichester was unveiled in Plymouth by the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday, 30 years after he completed his solo voyage around the world.

Eminent sailors including Sir Chay Blyth and Pete Goss were present at the ceremony after the plaque was privately commissioned by Chichester's son, Giles, a Euro MP. He has complained that Plymouth council has ignored the feat.

"I have been working for over ten years to put a suitable memorial in place to remind people what this son of Devon achieved," he said yesterday.

More than 400,000 people crammed Plymouth Hoe to see Chichester's return in 1967 after his 24,000-mile voyage.

The plaque bears an illustration of his craft, *Gypsy Moth IV*, and the words Chichester, who died in 1972, used when asked why he made the trip: "Because it intensifies life."

Death of boy angler 'caused by negligence'

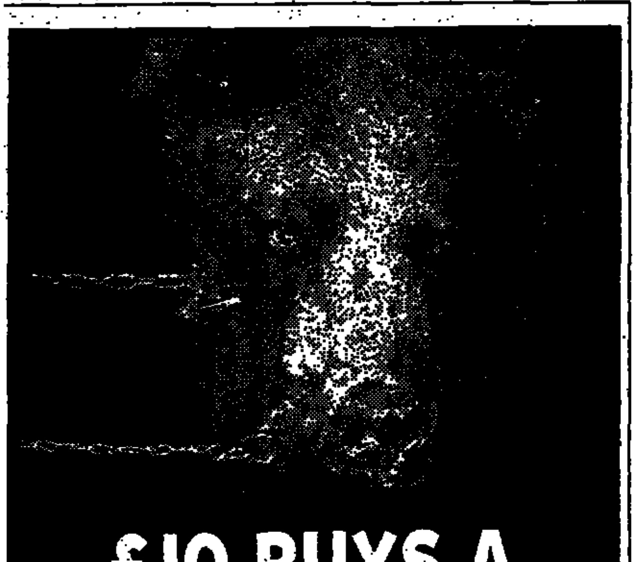
THE death of a teenager when the fishing pole he was using hit a high-voltage electricity cable running across a farm lake followed "gross negligence" by the farmers who charged youngsters to fish in the shallow lake, a court was told yesterday.

The boy, Jamie Boyce, 13, a keen angler, from Brixworth, Northamptonshire, and a friend, Daniel Jones, 15, had gone to the farm last August to spend a day fishing. Richard and Susan Lee, both 42, of Spratton, deny manslaughter. Richard Latham QC, for the prosecution, told the jury at Warwick Crown Court: "It is not suggested we are concerned with an intentional killing, but with a tragic accident which, it is said, involved gross negligence."

At the farm was a lake which had been used for fishing for some time, and the couple also built another shallow "balancing lake" under power lines which crossed the land, 6.6 metres above the surface of the lake.

On more than one occasion in the months leading up to August, a teenager got his line tangled on the cables. The Lees were aware of that, but there were no signs warning of the danger.

Jamie borrowed Daniel's carbon-fibre pole, which has a warning on the handle about the risk of overhead cables. He fitted five sections together, taking its length to 6.3 metres, and moved to a spot under the power cables. As he practised "striking", the top of the pole wrapped round one of the cables, electrocuting him. The case continues on Monday.



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Scots parliament may lose seats in boundary review

A reduction in Scottish representatives at Westminster will have a knock-on effect, reports **Magnus Linklater**

A SCOTTISH parliament may not be as large as the Government's devolution White Paper suggests. Reductions in the number of Scottish MPs serving at Westminster will mean a similar cut-back in Edinburgh. The projected total of 129 members of a Scottish parliament could come down to as few as 111 if boundary commission recommendations are accepted.

Since the membership of a Scottish parliament would be drawn from the eight Euro constituencies as well as the existing 72 seats, a reduction of ten MPs at Westminster would mean a drop of 18 in an Edinburgh parliament.

The disclosure emerged yesterday as details of the White Paper were explained at a series of Scottish Office briefings. Announcing the start of a seven-week campaign to win a "Yes Yes" vote in the referendum on September 11, Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, said he had already detected "a buzz, a sense of urgency" about the debate.

The possibility of a reduction in the number of Scottish MPs in Edinburgh emerged when civil servants were asked about references to "adjustments" to the size of a Scottish parliament. They pointed out that if, as already indicated, the number of Scottish MPs at Westminster is reduced, then the size of a Scottish parliament will have to come down as well "so as to maintain the present balance between constituency and additional member seats" — a reference to the system of proportional representation to be adopted for Scottish elections.

What is more, any alterations to the system could only be made with London's approval: the form of election to operate in Scotland is one of the areas "reserved" to Westminster. However, ministers confirmed that Scottish MPs at Westminster could sit in both parliaments during a transition period. Whether they will draw double salaries has not been decided. Mr Dewar made it clear that the Labour Party would not favour "dual mandate", as it is known, for long. He said the issue of salaries would be referred to the Senior Salaries Review Board.

Mr Dewar accepted that the role of Secretary of State would be reduced under the new arrangements but he emphasised that Westminster would continue to retain ultimate sovereignty. However, he denied that this would mean the ability to interfere, especially as this would be a body that was seen to be working. "This is a grown-up parliament with a grown-up role," he said.

Yesterday Henry McLeish, Minister for Home Affairs and Devolution, said the White Paper had resulted in "a lot of interest" among Labour MPs in moving to the Scottish Parliament once it was established.

He admitted that Scottish MPs at Westminster would have less to do once devolution took effect. The bulk of constituency matters that fill a backbencher's time, such as complaints about housing, health, roads and education, will become the responsibility of members of a Scottish parliament. He insisted that Scottish MPs would still have an important voice on matters reserved to Westminster, such as defence and foreign affairs.

Dewar: has detected a buzz about the debate

Scottish ministers now intend to throw everything into securing a convincing vote on the two-question referendum. Mr Dewar is insistent that there will be no repetition of the debacle in 1979 when the Labour Government's devolution proposals failed to secure a sufficient majority. He pointed out that by offering an element of proportional representation there was a far greater degree of unity in Scotland about the benefits of a new parliament than there had been 18 years ago. There was no longer a view that the new body would be dominated by the central belt of Scotland.

Last night Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told a referendum rally at the Hilton Hotel in Glasgow that a Scottish parliament would become "an economic powerhouse" that would strengthen the United Kingdom.

Mr Brown issued a warning to the House of Lords not to interfere with the democratic will of the Scottish people. The Lords, he said, had already voted one proposal down, and put down 158 amendments to the Referendum Bill.

"There was an old doctrine, the Salisbury Doctrine, that without the clear expression of the will of the people, the Lords should be free to interrupt and vote down constitutional reform. The referendum will provide a clear expression of the will of the people of Scotland. The House of Lords, elected by no one, should think again before voting down or delaying devolution plans and frustrating the will of the people," he said.

Philip Howard, page 20

Mr Hume, left, with Mr Ahern and Mr Adams yesterday. "Don't be looking at pictures of the three of us, but at what we said," Mr Hume said

Ahern restores Dublin's contact with Sinn Fein

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

BERTIE AHERN, the Irish Prime Minister, restored official contact with Sinn Fein yesterday when he met Gerry Adams for the first time since the IRA ceasefire.

The talks marked the end of a 18-month ban on contacts between Irish ministers and Sinn Fein imposed after the Canary Wharf bomb which ended the last IRA ceasefire.

The two men, who were joined by John Hume, the Social Democratic and Labour Party leader, reiterated their commitment to the peace process. In a joint statement they said that the problems of Northern Ireland could only be resolved "with the participation and commitment of the Unionist people".

However, the meeting in Dublin annoyed Unionists, who described it as a reinforcement of the "pan-Nationalist front". Mr Hume rejected criticism that he, Mr Ahern and Mr Adams were being insensitive to Unionist fears by holding their meeting as the Ulster Unionist Party considered whether to join the all-party talks on September 15. He said: "Don't be looking at the picture of the three of us but look at what we have said, because we have made clear our objective is agreement among our divided people."

Ken Maginnis of the Ulster Unionist Party said he was "overwhelmed by the platitudes and clichés" of the three men. He said: "I would have liked to hear them say that consent as agreed in the Downing Street Declaration was paramount to deciding the future of Northern Ireland. But of course they would not do that because Sinn Fein has repudiated any idea of consent being vested in the people of Northern Ireland."

The hour-long meeting in government offices was very different from the celebratory handshake on the steps of the Irish government offices in 1994 when the first IRA ceasefire was announced. Then Mr Hume and Mr Adams engaged in a three-part handshake with Albert Reynolds, then Irish Prime Minister. Yesterday was more muted, with handshakes exchanged backs to camera.

Mr Adams praised the IRA for its "courageous" decision to call another ceasefire while Mr Ahern said he hoped Unionists would shortly join the talks. "I dearly hope the day could be reached in the not too distant future when we could be here and David Trimble and others would be here with us."

Trimble seeks way to join full peace talks

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

DAVID TRIMBLE, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, embarked yesterday on a campaign to rally his party behind a new form of Unionism that might allow him to sit down opposite Sinn Fein at full-scale peace negotiations in September.

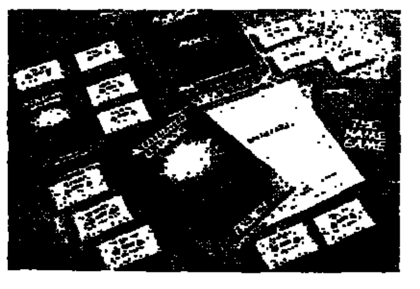
Mr Trimble proclaimed that his refusal to emulate other Unionist parties by abandoning the peace process this week was a propaganda victory. The IRA's ceasefire was a trap, he told the *Belfast Newsletter*. Sinn Fein had expected "the usual knee-jerk reaction of Unionists losing their temper, shouting their heads off". By not quitting, the UUP had avoided "an avalanche of negative publicity".

Mr Trimble plans wide "consultations" this summer and should receive strong support from church leaders, businessmen and trade unionists among others for joining the negotiations even without IRA disarmament. The exercise would be "a way to get into talks without contaminating ourselves," one UUP official said.

But it is a high-risk strategy and Unionist hardliners have effectively destroyed two previous leaders, Terence O'Neil and Brian Faulkner, who dared to accommodate the enemy. Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, has said that Mr Trimble would be "digging his own grave" by sitting down with Sinn Fein, and even in Mr Trimble's own constituency of Upper Bann Unionist opinion is sharply divided. Unionists on the front line of Northern Ireland's sectarian strife — in a working-class Protestant enclave surrounded by Catholic strongholds off Garvaghy Road in Portadown — strenuously oppose any dealings with Sinn Fein. "Peace," exclaimed a man of 46 who served in the security forces. "Gerry Adams couldn't spell the word. The only time we're going to have peace is when we have a civil war and clear IRA-Sinn Fein out of this country."

Peace talks were futile, insisted Norma Elliott, a 31-year-old shop assistant who has had two cousins killed by the IRA. "I don't think we'll ever get past the troubles unless Sinn Fein gets a united Ireland and what sort of life would ordinary Protestants have then? It's bad enough now."

Across Portadown from Garvaghy Road, where half a dozen UUP activists had gathered at the home of Mark Neale, a young councillor, the tone was markedly different. The idea of talking to Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness was abhorrent, they all agreed, but Sinn Fein was winning the propaganda war and Unionists had to begin using their heads, not their hearts. Abandoning the peace process would play into Sinn Fein's hands, they believed. The Unionists would look awful and the nationalists would have a free run. The UUP should "call Sinn Fein's bluff" and engage confidently in talks.



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Labour MPs renew attack on Welsh assembly

BY JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S plans for a Welsh assembly came under further attack from senior party members yesterday who said that the proposal would damage the working relationship between Wales and the rest of Britain.

In a five-hour Commons debate, Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, was forced to defend his plans for a directly elected 60-member assembly with a £7 billion budget.

He claimed that it would enable Wales to make a fresh start and break away from the "sleaze and incompetence" that dominated politics under the Conservatives.

But he came under fire from Alan Williams, the former Shadow Welsh Minister, Denzil Davies, the former Treasury Minister and Allan Rogers, the former Defence spokesman.

The renewed onslaught increases the risk of a backbench revolt if the plans are supported in a referendum on September 18.

Mr Williams, MP for Swansea West, attacked the Government's stance on quangos and mocked the Welsh Secretary's decision to involve MPs from across the UK to secure a yes vote. Denzil Davies, MP for Llanelli, warned of the impact on the relationship between Wales and England. "What we are going to see is a semi-federal Britain and we are going to see England more and more conscious of itself," he said.

Davies: forced to defend his proposals

Mr Rogers (Rhondda) said that although he was strongly in favour of devolution he did not support the current proposals. Stirring up nationalism in Wales was not the way forward, he told MPs.

"Our patriotism, our love of Wales is not based on resentment of the English. We are not fighting for a Wales in Europe," Mr Rogers said.

Irish police call time on remote islands' drinkers

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A POLICEMAN has been appointed to two remote islands off the coast of Donegal for the first time to deal with late-night drinking and rowdy stag weekends.

John Gallagher, a fluent Irish speaker, will move between the English-speaking Arranmore Island and the Gaelic-speaking Tory Island. His brief is to control the crowds pouring on to the islands in summer and be alert to signs of drug smuggling in the Atlantic.

The officer, who is 28 and single, has been appointed to the islands after numerous requests from community groups for a police presence on the islands. In the past, police made only occasional visits to the islands from their mainland station at Bunbeg. Last year, they took the three-mile crossing to Arranmore when a tourist was found dead from natural causes. But most of the time they stayed away.

Locals felt, however, that as taxpayers they were entitled to a more committed presence. There is virtually no crime on the islands but the potential increases dramatically in summer when the population of 750 triples. Most visitors are quiet and courteous but groups of young men on loud and boisterous stag weekends have been disruptive. The islanders want a garda on site in case trouble breaks out, as happened on Rathlin Island off the coast of Antrim last week when thieves stole a car and drove it into the harbour.

However, the police presence is being greeted with some trepidation by drinkers who have been known to enjoy after-hours drinking. Phil Bawn Boyle, one of the seven pub owners, is in two minds about the officer. "I remember 20 years ago a guard came for two weeks," he said. "For the first couple of days it was terrible but then things settled down and people just started coming to drink earlier and then they left earlier. To tell the truth we were kind of sorry to see him go. Maybe the same will happen with this young lad."

Mr Gallagher's presence will be reviewed in the autumn when his superintendent, John Hanley, will consider whether he should remain for the winter. He said: "I think initally he was a bit apprehensive but now he is starting to enjoy it and building up a rapport with the local people. We'll give it a little while to see how they all get on."

British soldiers in Cyprus jail brawl

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

TWO British soldiers who sexually assaulted and killed a Danish woman in Cyprus after a drinking spree joined in a prison brawl after getting drunk on home-made wine.

Justin Fowler, 29, and Geoffrey Pernell, 26, were among inmates in Nicosia Central Prison who made the wine by fermenting grapes brought in by a visitor. The fight between Cypriots and foreigners broke out last week when there was not enough to go around.

George Anastassiades, the prison governor, said yesterday that the two Britons had been involved but denied there was serious violence. "It was something instantaneous. There were no broken arms or legs," he said.

Fowler and Pernell, and Allan Ford, 29, are serving life sentences for the killing.

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Butlers suffer as new rich make poor bosses

By Damian Whitworth

IT HAS not been a good week for butlers. The image of an immaculate, unflappable Jeeves firmly but fairly ruling upper-class households has taken a bit of a knock.

A bounder called Percival Hole is facing jail after selling his employer's Bentley, and hiring his own butler while he played master of the house in front of his mates from the pub. Another butler is alleged to have threatened to throw half of his aged employer's ashes on the rhubarb patch after her death and flush half down the lavatory. Meanwhile, a former royal butler, Michael Hardern, took time off from wearing his sarong to try to turn the Nationwide into a bank.

The reason for such antics may be quite simple: you just can't get the employers these days.

In the shifting sands of late 20th-century society those who employ butlers are now likely not to be ancient aristocratic families but those who have *made fortunes in the 1980s.* Without experience of handling domestic staff, relations can quickly deteriorate. "Many of the upper classes can no longer afford domestic staff and are more likely to become butlers than employ them," said Ewa Lewis, social editor of *Tatler*. "A lot of people will have never had a butler and don't know what to expect and so the butler does what he likes." She added: "You have to be human to staff. A lot of people just *see their staff* as faceless people."

Michael Fearn, a butler working for a multimillionaire living in Ireland, says the boom in demand for butlers from those wanting a status symbol has caused problems. "I personally blame the agencies who send people who aren't properly trained and vetted. They need to vet the *employers too.*" Ms Lewis said: "I once employed a temporary butler who came from an agency and got tipsy. He trotted round the table and when the talk turned to racing and he started butting-in with tips for the next day. Not only was he drunk but when it came for the guests to leave he stood at the door and said: 'Thank you for coming. I hope we see you again.' We didn't see *him* again."

> If people have never had a butler the butler can do what he likes

Mr Fearn says butlers have more responsibility for money today. "Last time *I spent* £20,000 on wine. You've got to be trustworthy and respect the person you are working for."

Such are the changes that Ivor Spencer, who trains butlers, now also has a short course to train employers to behave properly with their staff. "Before the war there were 30,000 butlers. When I *started in 1981 there were just* 70 professionals. Now more people have butlers because of new money." He said many butlers trained in Britain went to work abroad.

Mr Spencer is hoping to catch the employers early with a month-long course for the children of the super-rich costing a mere £80,000. "The idea is to show them how they can run their own home and staff. It's a lot of money but over the span of years, it's minimal."

The training will need to be thorough for poor butler-management can be fatal even for those brought up in the world of Jeeves. The previous owners of Nether Lypiatt Manor *in Gloucestershire, which is* now home to the Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, were two spinster sisters. Their butler had served them for 40 years when one evening at dinner they told him they were letting him go.

He said nothing, but served coffee and quietly went to the gunroom. He then returned with a 12-bore shotgun and killed them.

Leading article, page 21

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

When the butler knew his place: a loyal retainer greets a visitor in a 1900 print

THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE POWER AND THE GLORY

A few days earlier. Tim Allan, Alastair Campbell's deputy, had slipped into No 10 to finalise the last details of the victory procession, down to camera angles and the position of the specially-installed podium from which Blair was to deliver his address to the nation. Nothing was left to chance . . .

The first 100 days of the Blair government, by a Labour insider

THE SUNDAY TIMES tomorrow

Nurses on murder charge may be freed

By Richard Duce

RELATIVES of the two British nurses accused of murder in *Saudi Arabia have expressed* hope that the case against them will be dismissed tomorrow.

Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan are to appear before Saudi judges in Al Khobar. As relatives of both women flew out to Saudi Arabia yesterday, Jonathon Ashbee, Miss Parry's brother-in-law, said that the judges could dismiss the case; rule out premeditated murder; refer the case to a higher court; or proceed with the trial. "While the case could be dismissed, the hearing on Sunday is more likely to give us an indication *of where the case is going,*" Mr Ashbee, from Alton, Hampshire, said.

He said that he and other family members hoped to be allowed into court but in the meantime were hoping to boost the morale of the women by visiting them in prison in Damman.

Miss Parry and Miss McLauchlan face the death penalty if they are convicted of murdering Yvonne Gilford, an Australian nurse. The two British nurses were arrested soon after her death in December. She had been stabbed.

Camelot is accused of reneging on £1m pledge

By Carol Midgley

RICHARD BRANSON accused Camelot yesterday of *"reneging" on a pledge to give* £2 for every £1 raised by the Weston Spirit charity, which offers life-changing experiences to young people.

Mr Branson, vice-president of the charity run by Simon Weston, the Falklands veteran, responded to the pledge by offering £500,000 if Camelot gave £1 million. The Camelot Foundation said it had set a ceiling of £80,000.

Aletheia Gentle, director of the Camelot Foundation set up by the lottery organiser but run independently, accused Mr Branson of using the charity to score political *points,* and said there was little chance now of increasing the ceiling.

Mr Branson, whose own bid to run the lottery was rejected, is a long-standing critic of Camelot, saying that more profits should go to good causes. Ms Gentle said: "He should know better." The foundation has previously given £120,000 to Weston Spirit, and if it gave £1 million, that would affect other charities, she said.

Mr Branson has given £100,000 to the charity "with no strings attached".

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Carey yearns to be parish priest again

Ruth Gledhill

on a stressed archbishop and his idea of the good life

THE Archbishop of Canterbury revealed his longing to be a parish priest again last night, in a speech about the stresses of his ministry.

During a visit to Australia, Dr George Carey said he looked back on his time as a curate and vicar with affection but also with sadness. "Perhaps it is inevitable but there are many times when I would love to be back at work in a parish again," he said.

Dr Carey's duties as Archbishop are an endless series of brief encounters. In all, he has spent 307 days abroad on 47 overseas trips since he was appointed in 1991. At home and abroad, he has given about 500 speeches. He has made 21 four-day diocesan visits in this country, conducted 44 consecrations and made at least 220 broadcasts.

He is patron or head of more than 300 charities, schools and other bodies. He regularly attends debates at the House of Lords, goes to diocesan, general synod and house of bishops' meetings and hosts or attends vast numbers of receptions, dinners and lunches.

But what he would really love is to return to the "hatch, match and despatch" duties of the average clergyman. His time in the parishes was all too brief. He was curate at St Mary's, Islington, north London, from 1962 to 1966, but spent the next nine years as a college lecturer.

He then moved to St Nicholas, Durham, which he transformed from a struggling inner-city church to a thriving, evangelical community and the centre of lively student worship. But after seven years he was back in academia, heading a theological college, before becoming Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1987.

For all his love of parish work, Dr Carey said that life could be hard in the Church of England. Addressing clergy and their spouses at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, he described ministry in the Church as a "constant battle" to keep one's faith fresh.

"There are so many demands on our time, so many pressures, so many things demanding our attention," he said. "There are people to visit, there are talks that need to be prepared, there is correspondence that needs answering, there is the money that needs to be found."

Prayer, Bible study and contemplation could be squeezed out by the pressure, he said, citing the church noticeboard that read: "Don't let worry kill you, let the Church help."

Dr Carey is on a four-week tour of America, Australia and New Zealand. He has endured fraught debates on sexuality that threaten to split the 70-million strong worldwide Anglican communion that he heads, as well as continuing friction over women priests.

Although he has been criticised over the time he has spent abroad since 1991, his visits are considered essential before the Lambeth Conference next year, the ten-yearly meeting of archbishops and bishops from nearly 40 Anglican provinces worldwide. With different provinces veering off towards extremes of liberalism, evangelicalism or traditionalism, he has been trying to keep his communion in one piece.

At Your Service, Weekend, page 11

ROBIN MAYES

The Archbishop of Canterbury, whose duties are a series of brief encounters

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Credo

Praying for a change in our attitude to worship

Jacqueline Tabick

Some time ago, a child asked me: "Do you think the world would be a better place if everybody prayed?" The question, in its simplicity, took me aback. I mean, can you imagine it? A call comes over the radio and everybody stops and says a quick prayer. Would love and peace suddenly break out?

Much as I hate to admit it, I doubt it. There are societies today where the call to prayer is made, there were even more such societies in the past, but unfortunately, the same injustice, oppression, intolerance, and violence seem extant in so-called religious societies as in secular ones.

So how come all these prayers and yet there seems no corresponding increase in morality? Is it all a waste of time and energy? The answer must lie, as I said to the youngster, in what we mean by "pray". The problem is, prayer takes practice, concentration and consistency, and most of us find that a drag on our busy schedule. So, many try to confine religion to a specific place of worship, or to one or two days of the year, or even one day a week, leaving the street, home and office free from divine influence.

In the ancient temple in Jerusalem, the windows were narrow within and wide on the outside so that the light of religion could go out into the market place, but today many feel that religion should know its place. And that place is limited.

Some even engage in prayer but confuse religion with respectability. To them, it is more a matter of looking as if you are doing the right thing than actually doing it.

If you are seen to engage in divine worship, it suggests trustworthiness and gravitas. No matter if the prayer remains mere words. And some, of course, turn to religion only in a crisis. But what about prayers that acknowledge the greatness and beauty of the universe? If we pray only at times of crisis, helpful though that may be, we run the risk of depleting our spiritual reserves.

And what of those who value prayer only for tradition, a hand-me-down prayer time that has been in the family for a long time and so must be continued, empty though the spiritual life behind it may be.

Prayer is not useless: it is we who are useless at prayer. We have tried to limit it, or we say the words without concentration or understanding the implications.

In *Leviticus*, we are told that the incense which accompanied the sacrifices must be offered continuously. That is to say, there can be no part-time religion. To try to limit God is to turn God into an idol. Prayer is not just a matter of the right words said at the right time, it must determine our attitude to life. A Rabbi in the 13th century, Rebeinu Bachya, wrote: "Psalm 141 says 'Let my prayer come before you as incense', not like a sin offering or a guilt offering, which was brought for sins of action, nor like a whole offering, brought for sins of thought, but like incense, which was not brought to atone for a sin, but for joy, the sheer joy of worship, with no ulterior motive."

If we can worship God with joy, and let the words we say permeate our actions, just as the smell of incense can permeate clothes, then maybe, yes, if the whole word prayed, it would bring about a difference.

☐ *Jacqueline Tabick is associate Rabbi of the West London Synagogue.*

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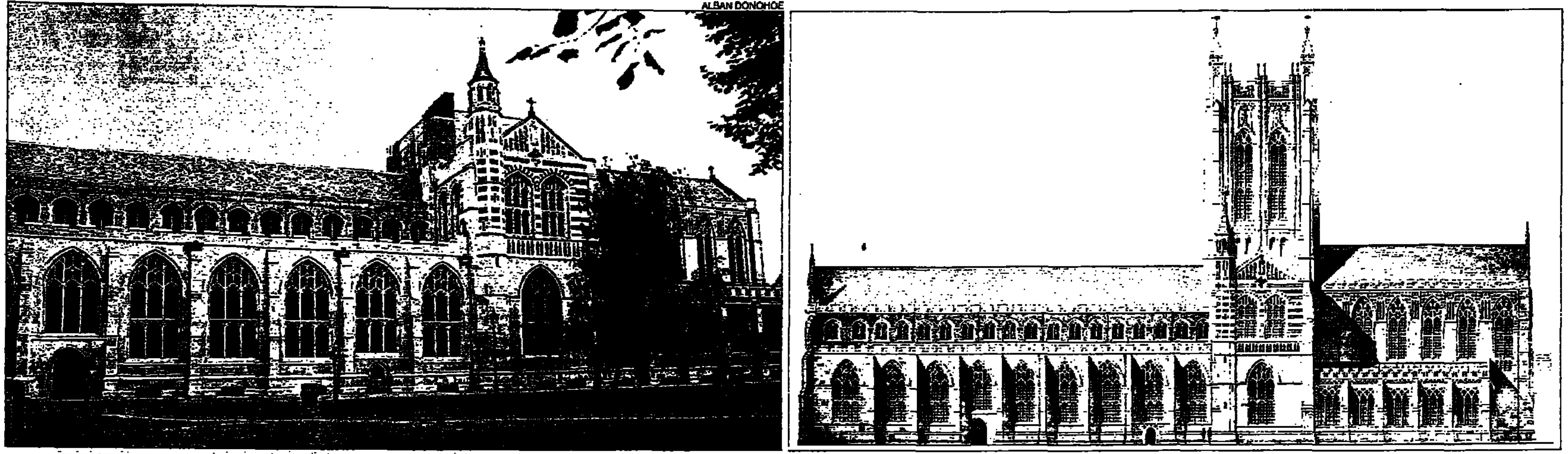
هكذا من الأصل

Cathedral tower offers soaring crescendo


ALBAN DONOHOE

The unfinished cathedral at Bury St Edmunds, and the proposal for a tower in traditional style by Hugh Mathew, who believes the original idea for a spire is flawed. His design is notable for its tall windows

Marcus Binney reports on a proposal for a striking addition to the skyline of Bury St Edmunds

A SCHEME for a soaring tower rising out of the unfinished cathedral at Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk is unveiled today. An earlier scheme for a tower and spire was rejected last year by the Millennium Commission as "insufficiently distinctive", and a more modest scheme for a shorter tower put forward by the Provost and cathedral council is not under active consideration by the commission.

Alan Powers, who is championing the new design, says: "The cathedral lies low and needs a strong tall tower to register on the skyline. Despite current setbacks the will to complete the tower remains strong as the cathedral is marred by the exposed concrete base for the tower."

The medieval parish church of St James was given cathedral status when the diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich was created in 1913. Over the past 40 years the cathedral has been enlarged, with a cloister and choir designed by the late Stephen Dykes Bower.

The new design is the work of Hugh Mathew who worked as Dykes Bower's assistant on the cathedral. Aged 77, Mr Mathew has emerged from retirement to produce a stunning design. "I worked with Dykes Bower for 14 years, and for the last six I was almost entirely engaged on building the tower base and the transepts," Mr Mathew says.

He continues: "I have always felt Dykes Bower's original idea for a spire was wrong ever since I first saw it in 1957. The tower ought to be finished with pinnacles in the traditional manner and the spire omitted." There was also considerable local feeling that the spire, with a silhouette similar to that of Mont St Michel in Normandy, was not suitable to Suffolk.

Mr Mathew continues: "The present shorter design is also quite unsuitable. I'm sure Dykes Bower never wanted it to be used as an alternative. It is not even particularly ecclesiastical in character."

Mr Mathew has taken inspiration from John Wastell, the great 15th-century church architect who lived at Bury and designed the nave of St James. Mr Mathew says: "I was a choir man at Wastell's church at Saffron Walden in Essex and looked long at all his mouldings. I kept to his style when doing the tower arches at Bury."

Mr Powers says: "A taller tower would unify the east and west ends with a crescendo. This is achieved by increasing the decorative carving towards the top and finishing the tower with stepped crenellations or battlements, pairs of pinnacles and elongated pyramids at the corners. Some feel the tower should be reminiscent of other great Suffolk churches, but the typical parish church tower is at the west end and rises straight from the ground. By contrast you never see the base of a crossing tower and it needs to be taller."

Mr Mathew's new design has taller windows than currently proposed. Dykes Bower himself wrote: "At York, Lincoln and Canterbury and many other cathedrals, tall windows in the central tower ensure not only that the centre of the building is well lit but the illumination is more dramatic for being invisible. Not until one stands almost under the tower do the windows very high up come into view. Provision for a central tower at Bury St Edmunds comes from this aim."

When he joined Dykes Bower, Mr Mathew persuaded him to increase the size of the pillars at the crossing. Engineers have recently confirmed that these could take the weight of a taller tower. This would be built in Doulting and Clipsham limestone with inset panels of flush work or knapped flints. Mr Mathew says: "I do hope the cathedral council will have second thoughts. A truncated job will be a disaster and ruin the cathedral."

Monks to welcome royal visitor

THE Prince of Wales will visit the monks of Caldy Island in Pembrokeshire today. It is believed to be the first time in more than 800 years that a member of royalty has been to the island.

Prince Charles will meet villagers and the 15 members of the Cistercian community who sell a range of home-produced goods including perfumes.

Brother Gildaf, the monks' spokesman, said records suggested that the Prince would be Caldy's first royal visitor since Henry I. "The Prince will be seeing our way of life here and also meeting local families," Brother Gildaf said. "A group of Prince's Trust volunteers has also been involved in schemes on the island."

Prince Charles, who will arrive on Caldy by helicopter, is beginning a four-day informal visit to the Principality which has become a regular part of his summer schedule.

JPs advised on how to avoid racist attitudes

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

MAGISTRATES are to be briefed on the religious and cultural practices of ethnic minority defendants, including words that cause offence, in an attempt to reduce racial attitudes on the bench.

The book gives magistrates guidance on the main religions and cultures of the world and explains issues such as why it is inappropriate to use the term "coloured", and the need to keep the Koran in a cloth cover.

Nick Stevens, junior vice-president of the Justices' Clerks' Society, said the booklet, *Race and Religion*, was necessary to help to change attitudes, and perhaps behaviour, among both magistrates and court staff.

He said there had been some concern among magistrates and staff at attitudes to ethnic minorities. "It is not, in my experience, that it has been overt racism. It has been far more misunderstanding and a lack of information about cultures and racial differences."

The guide, to be sent to all 30,000 magistrates next week, tells them to inform Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus that facilities for washing hands and feet are available for use, if they wish, before taking the oath; that Muslims hold the Koran in the right hand; and that the Gita, (Hinduism's Holy Book), the Adi Granth (Sikhism's Holy Book) and the Koran must remain covered except when touched by the witness.

The book says that black is an acceptable way to describe people of Caribbean or African origin and also some young Asians, but it is preferable to refer to black and Asian people. Magistrates are told that coloured, ethnics, half-caste and half-breed are not suitable terms but mixed race and mixed origin are acceptable.

The guide says: "Immigrants is not acceptable when describing people of minority ethnic communities, because it is likely to be inaccurate, as the majority of black people living in the UK were born here.

"West Indian, though not offensive, is inappropriate to use as a generic term to describe people from the West Indies. People from the West Indies prefer to describe themselves as Jamaicans or Barbadians, and so on."

The book, produced jointly by the Justices' Clerks' Association and the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, adds: "Oriental is not acceptable. It is imprecise and may be found racist or offensive."

In guidance on religion and culture, magistrates are told that by Chinese tradition, a signature is a person's word of honour, but it adds that breaking a saucer to make a solemn declaration in court is no longer in practice.

Mr Stevens said it was hoped the book would help to overcome potential embarrassment. "I think that if a Rastafarian wearing a *tam* (leather or cloth crown) walked into Birmingham Magistrates' Court it would not be a problem but there might be an entirely different reaction in a rural court.

"It should not be a matter of embarrassment or surprise to anyone when Muslims ask to wash their hands or feet before taking the oath."

Nuns cautioned for jail smuggling

By A Staff Reporter

AN ELDERLY nun caught trying to smuggle tobacco and food into a prison has been given a police caution. Sister Annuntiata, 72, who has received an award from the Princess Royal for devoting her life to helping prisoners, has also been banned indefinitely from Kingston prison.

She was caught with tobacco, eggs and meat in her bags as she made one of her weekly visits as a member of the prison chaplaincy team at the jail in Portsmouth. A new guard asked to search her bags during a routine visit on July 6 and found the goods. Her friend Sister Anna has also been cautioned.

The pair belong to the Daughters of Joseph and Mary religious order and live in caravans in the grounds of the Park Place pastoral centre, at Wickham, Hampshire. They were cautioned after admitting to taking "treats" into the prison for inmates serving life sentences.

Since their arrest, the two nuns have become recluses. Sister Evelyn, who is in charge of the centre, said: "They are depressed. They don't even want to meet us. They don't want to meet anyone. They are fed up with people asking questions.

"My community and I know HMP Kingston quite well and we know Sister Anna and Sister Annuntiata very well, too. We greatly regret the suffering and pain of their present situation."

Sister Annuntiata has devoted her life to helping the jail's life-sentence prisoners and has been a regular visitor for the past 27 years. She was honoured in 1988 by the Princess Royal who presented her with the Butler Trust Award after she gained parole for three of the prison's terminally-ill lifers.

The two nuns are known as the jail's angels and have established learning facilities at the prison. Sister Evelyn said: "The sisters had no bad intentions and meant no harm. Their overall and consuming aim is to be able to contribute towards giving some hope and dignity to the needy at any and all levels."

She said that neither nun wanted to speak about the incident. "It's better to be discreet about these things."

Stuart McLean, the prison governor, said that the nuns would remain suspended from the jail following the police caution, but this would be reviewed. Derek Reeve, the prison chaplain, said: "I have known Sister Annuntiata for more than 30 years and I have nothing but admiration for her work."

Roadside takeaway with extra topping

By A Staff Reporter

PARAMEDICS feared the worst yesterday when they found two men staggering from their wrecked car apparently covered in blood. Unusually, their car appeared to be bleeding too. So did the lorry that had collided with them.

Concern turned to smiles after a simple diagnosis: the lorry had been carrying tons of pizza-topping which coated the crash scene on the A12 near Colchester, Essex.

The ambulance crew answered a 999 call at 3.30am, after the 38-tonne DAF lorry struck a broken-down Fiat Tipo on the dual carriageway. First reports said that the two men in the car were seriously hurt and trapped in their vehicle. When the paramedics arrived, they found the victims had managed to crawl out but appeared to be bleeding badly.

A spokesman for Essex Ambulance Service said: "Things looked very serious. The two men in the car were soaked in what looked like blood. But on closer examination, it turned out to be pizza topping. It had burst out of a tank and flooded the car."

The two men were taken to Colchester hospital where the driver, Sadan Yeta, 33, from Chelmsford, was detained with a back injury. His passenger, Nazim Kantarci, 32, also from Chelmsford, was allowed home after treatment for cuts.

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Britain ready for new investigation of Gulf War gas

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Ministry of Defence is expected to carry out a new assessment of the possible impact of nerve gas on the 50,000 British troops serving in the Gulf in 1991. This follows the latest Pentagon report into the bombing by American aircraft of an Iraqi chemical weapons plant at Khamisiyah in Iraq.

With both the United States and Britain still attempting to discover why thousands of Gulf War veterans are suffering from debilitating illnesses, the dramatically revised Pentagon assessment of the distance a nerve gas cloud may have travelled after the air raids has added to the doubts expressed over previous official statements made about the bombing. When it was first admitted that the bombing at Khamisiyah had released nerve gas into the atmosphere, the Ministry of Defence said that no British troops were near enough to the plant to be affected by any chemical traces travelling downwind.

The Pentagon's first report on the bombing assessed the risks on the basis of a 50-kilometre (30-mile) radius. The nearest British troops were well outside that zone, although there was one serviceman attached to an American unit who was inside it. However, MoD sources said that he was not suffering from any illness.

The latest Pentagon report says that the nerve gas plume travelled 300 kilometres (almost 190 miles) during a 72-hour period, which could have reached most of the British units in Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The nearest units, the 16th/5th Lancers and 4 Regiment Army Air Corps, were about 75 miles away from the Iraqi plant.

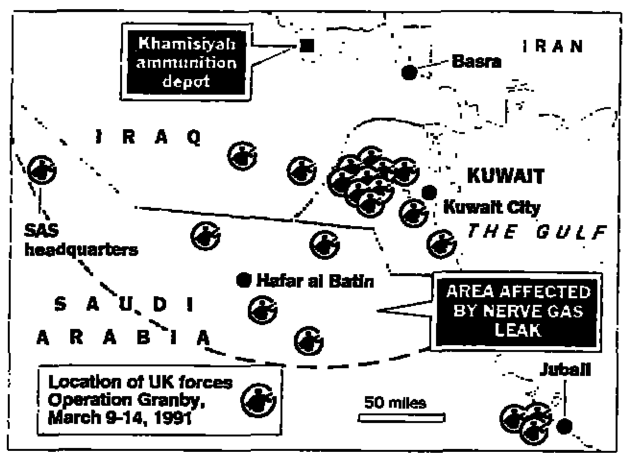
However, the Pentagon said that the direction of the nerve gas plume was towards Saudi Arabia and, at that stage, most of the British troops were in Kuwait.

According to the new Pentagon report, about 100,000 American Gulf War troops were potentially exposed in 1991 to trace levels of nerve gas from the bombed Iraqi chemical weapons plant. Previously, the official figure had been 20,000.

The Pentagon also admitted that there had been 26 reported symptoms consistent with nerve gas poisoning.

The exposure figures were based on an analysis of CIA computer models of the plume of poison gas released after US bombers destroyed a depot of sarin-filled rockets at the Khamisiyah plant on March 10, 1991.

The maximum exposure occurred on the second day when the plume thickened and spread south and west into Saudi Arabia. One unit that could have been affected was the SAS headquarters, about nine miles from the Saudi-Iraqi border.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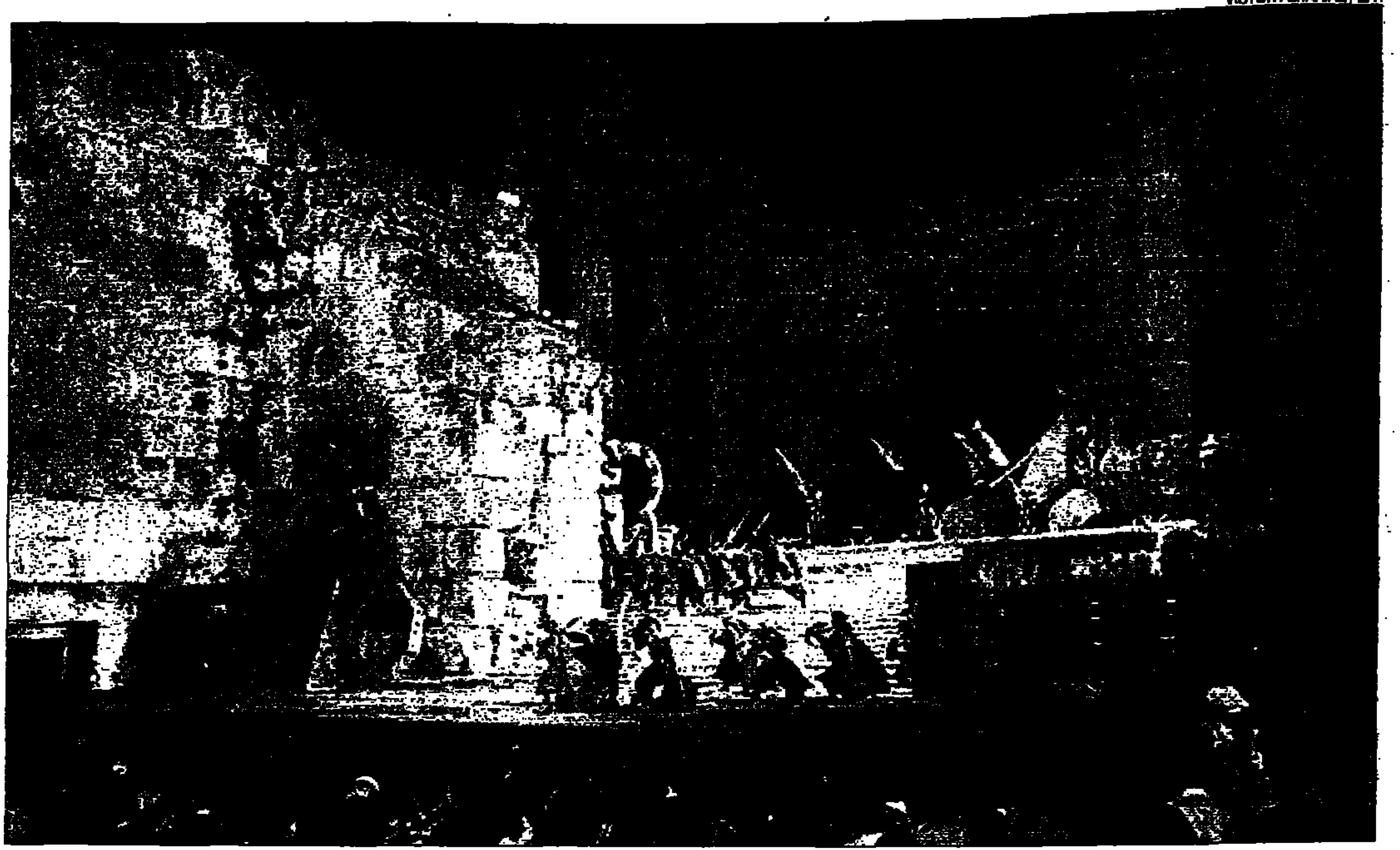
Location of UK forces Operation Granby, March 9-14, 1991
50 miles


VICTOR FERNAINE / EPA

The Caracalla Dance Theatre performs within the walls of the Roman temple of Bacchus at the opening of this year's Baalbek arts festival

Lebanese festival rises from the ruins

From Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia

SEVEN years after the militiamen, kidnappers and car bombers were pensioned off, Lebanon has revived the Baalbek International Festival, once the Middle East's greatest annual cultural and artistic extravaganza.

Before the country was torn apart by the 15-year civil war and Baalbek became a notorious Hezbollah stronghold, thousands of tourists flocked to the ancient city each summer. They came to see the likes of Rudolf Nureyev, Margot Fonteyn, Joan Baez and Herbert von Karajan's Berlin Philharmonic perform beneath the floodlit splendour of its exquisite Roman temples. There were famous Arab singers such as Umm Kalthoum and Lebanon's own Fairouz.

The last festival in 1974 lasted six weeks, featured nine spectacles and 32 performances and was attended by 74,000 tourists who cruised to Lebanon on luxury liners or jetted in on chartered planes.

This year's event is understandably more modest. But there was an ecstatic surge of pride among the 2,200 mainly Lebanese spectators when the Caracalla Dance Theatre, a local folk dance troupe, reopened the festival on Thursday night after a 23-year break. It will draw to a rapturous close next Wednesday when the cellist, Mstislav Rostropovich, accompanied by the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, plays Beethoven, Dvorak and Berlioz. The Russian maestro last performed at Baalbek in 1969.

"It's wonderful. It means so much to us. It is the revival of our cultural life and it shows the world that Lebanon is secure," said Nazek Yared, a spokeswoman for the festival.

Like the reopening last December of the Casino du Liban, the glitziest symbol of Lebanon's prewar heyday, the festival's revival is seen by Lebanese as another key milestone on their country's road to recovery. The most vital test of international confidence comes next Thursday when Washington will decide whether to end a ban on its citizens entering Lebanon, imposed in 1985 after Islamic terrorists hijacked a TWA airliner to Beirut and killed an American passenger. Lifting the ban would boost tourism and foreign investment and delight the billionaire Prime Minister, Rafic Hariri.

Many Americans already flout the travel ban. "Put it this way. I feel safer in Baalbek than in New York," said one foreign businessman.

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Doubts cast on Masada bones

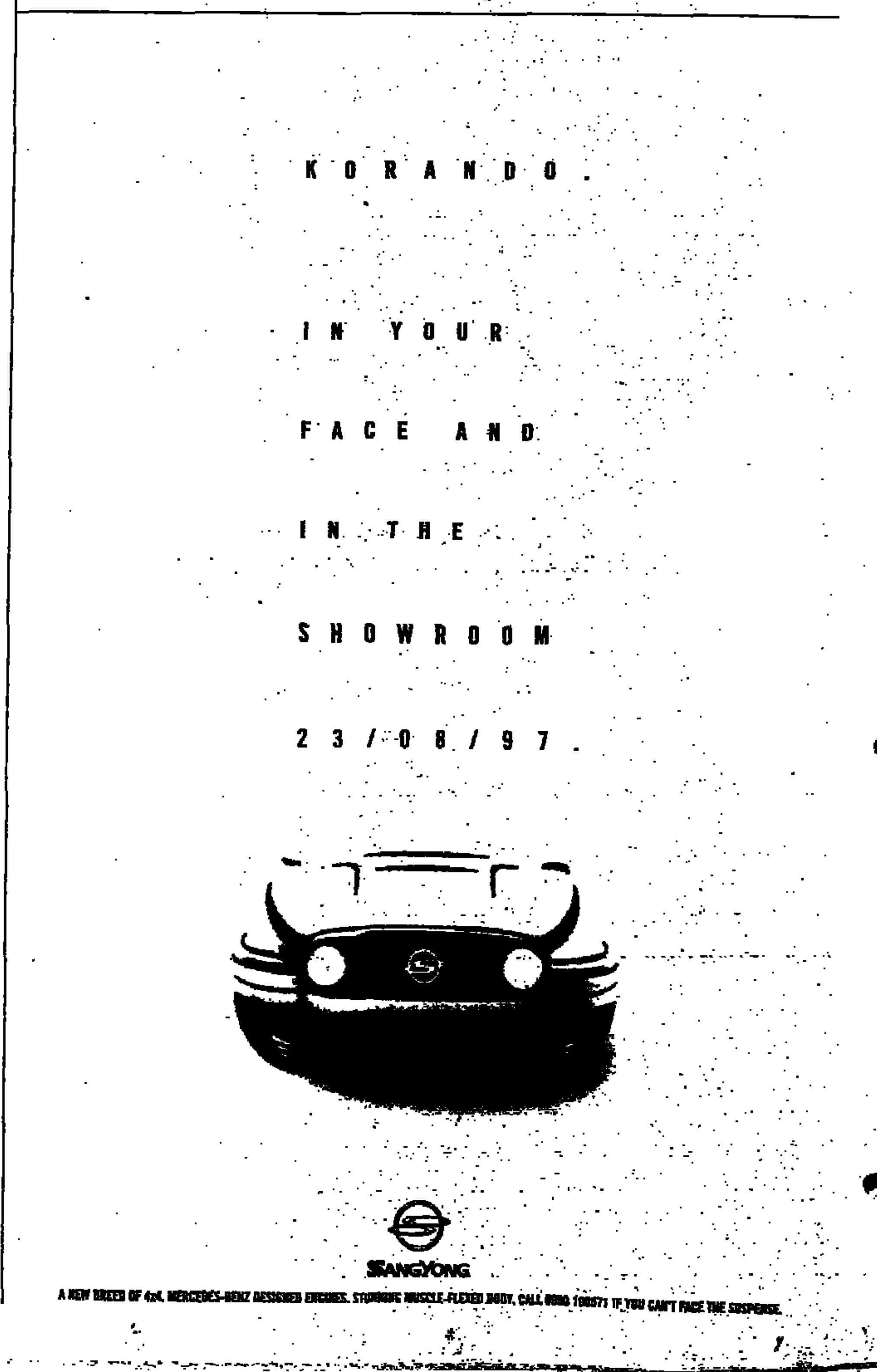
Jerusalem: An Israeli anthropologist believes the Government may have been wrong to identify human remains found at Masada as belonging to ancient Jews (Ross Dunn writes).

Joe Zias, of the Israel Antiquities Authority, told an international Dead Sea scrolls congress that they may have actually been Roman. He said it had not been publicised by Yigal Yadin, the archaeologist who excavated Masada, that he had also found pig bones with the human remains.

Mr Zias' theory could prove embarrassing, as the remains were re-buried at the foot of Masada in 1969, in a grand ceremony. It was at Masada that a group of Jews in AD 66 captured a Roman fortress. They held it for several years but committed suicide when they faced defeat.

Mr Zias said that as it was Roman burial custom to sacrifice pigs, he believed the remains were probably those of Roman soldiers.

Masada, historic site of Jewish resistance to Rome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Call to home saves brothel slaves

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN BANGKOK

A YOUNG Thai girl who was kidnapped and made to work in a Malaysian brothel was able to summon help by calling home using a customer's mobile telephone.

When police raided the establishment in the suburbs of Kuala Lumpur they found 36 women who had been kidnapped or lured to the brothel, masquerading as a restaurant, and then treated as sex slaves for more than two years.

Paveena Hongsakul, a Thai MP and women's rights campaigner who prompted the raid by both Thai and Malaysian police, told yesterday how most of the "recruits" — Thai, Laotian, Burmese and Cambodian — had been kidnapped and smuggled across the Thai-Malaysian border. Two Thai girls, both students, were lured to the restaurant with promises of good holiday money.

Instead all the women were put to work in a brothel called Max 29. When police at first raided the brothel they found nothing. But by pressing the hand on a statue in one of the rooms, an officer inadvertently opened a secret door which led down a corridor to where the women were held captive.

Since entering the brothel prison, the women, aged from 15 to 25, had not seen daylight for more than two years: windows were boarded and barred. They were made to work each night until 4am, servicing customers for the equivalent of £6 a time. The brothel opened again for *business for the lunchtime* trade between noon and 2pm. If they were impolite or did not please guests, they were caned.

West to censure Asian club over entry for Burma

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN SUBANG JAYA, MALAYSIA

RELATIONS between the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the West will be tested at the weekend when ministers from both sides meet for the first time since Burma's admission into the booming regional club.

The United States and the European Union are expected to criticise Asean for ending Burma's international isolation, and the Rangoon junta for refusing to respect human rights or restore democracy.

Burma, along with Laos, became a full member of Asean at its annual foreign ministers' meeting here this week. In their final communiqué yesterday, the ministers formally supported Rangoon by telling the West to stay out of their internal affairs and demanded that sanctions against Burma be lifted.

Britain, one of three countries representing the EU here, led European opposition to Burma's admission. London ordered David Moss, the British High Commissioner to Kuala Lumpur, to boycott the formal admission ceremony on Wednesday. His acting deputy, Stephen Bridges, stood in for him. Mr Bridges said: "Considering the current state of relations between Britain and Myanmar [Burma], it was inappropriate for us to be represented at such a level."

Britain and other EU countries have frozen non-humanitarian aid to Burma until the junta begins talks with Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Peace laureate who is battling to bring about democratic rule.

Mr Bridges said Burma would not be invited to attend the Asia-Europe meeting (Asem) in London next year. "Just because Burma is now a member of Asean does not mean it will automatically be invited to Asem, even though Asean thinks it should be."

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, who arrived here yesterday, said in a speech in Los Angeles on Thursday that the onus was on Asean to precipitate democracy in Burma. "Burma's problems [have] now become Asean's problems and the goal of democratic change and respect for human rights in Burma becomes not only a national, but a regional and global, imperative."

However, Abdullah Badawi, the Foreign Minister of Malaysia, said: "Our constructive-engagement relations with Myanmar will be more comprehensive now." *But he emphasised that they* would not be interventionist.

He also rejected speculation that relations between Asean and the West would deteriorate now that Burma was a member. "We have had, and will have, very frank discussions behind closed doors, but our relations should remain strong."

But Ajit Singh, the Asean Secretary-General, admitted yesterday that Burma's presence would probably affect relations with the West. He said: "It does raise issues that we have to consider now, and we will have to address them in the near future."

Asean now comprises Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Cambodia was due to join this week, but the coup by Hun Sen, the Second Prime Minister, on July 5 forced Asean to postpone indefinitely its entry. Mr Hun Sen has so far rebuffed Asean's efforts to mediate in the crisis.

A Western diplomat said: "It now looks as if democracy is unlikely to be restored quickly to Cambodia. If Asean is not being allowed to do anything, there is no way in which Hun Sen will listen to anyone else."

PORNCHAI KITTIWONGSAKUL / AP

Burmese students in Bangkok slash their arms in protest at Burma's entry into Asean

Tigers put the bite on currency dealers

BY TIM HAMES

COMMENTARY

This week's Asean meeting in Malaysia has been dominated by two issues. Admission for Burma and delay for Cambodia proved the central political question. The delicate state of several member countries' currencies was the chief economic concern.

Mahathir Mohamad, Malaysia's Prime Minister, used his opening address to attack "rogue speculators" engaged in a deliberate attempt to "undermine" regional economies. *His pledge to fight back through a* common strategy and to all-but-criminalise those responsible was reflected, in rather more subtle terms, in yesterday's final communiqué.

Asean's anger is understandable. South-East Asia has long been considered the the global economy's most dynamic aspect. Growth rates that have often exceeded 10 per cent a year over the past decade have fuelled dramatic booms. The public image has been that of new "Asian Tigers" — Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand — destined to join such established giants as Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea.

This year economic growth re*mains impressive, but has slipped* back from the peaks of the early 1990s. All leading currencies, in practice pegged to the American dollar, have suffered some sort of assault from international speculators, stirring Asean into co-operation and threats of retaliation. Despite Dr Mahathir's warning, the currencies — the Thai baht, Malaysian ringgit, Indonesian rupiah, Philippine peso, and even to some degree the mighty Hong Kong dollar — face renewed devaluation pressure.

Thailand has already been defeated. An early attack on the baht was resisted in Bangkok. In a display of strength and solidarity several Asean members, with Australia, Hong Kong and Japan, promised intense central bank co-ordination to ward *off such intrusions. As the combined* reserves of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand from within Asean, and their ally Hong Kong, constituted $250 billion — or about a fifth of all global reserves — the alliance was considered impressive.

At first this display of solidarity proved effective. An attempt in May at a run on the baht was halted by measures that included closing off foreign access to those markets where the Thai currency was exposed.

Speculators took billions of dollars in losses. Even the renowned entrepreneur George Soros was said to have suffered. Asean claimed a complete triumph over the markets that had destroyed *the more-established European* exchange rate mechanism five years earlier.

Victory was short-lived. International money dealers came back, pushing Thailand into ever more incredible interest rates as a consequence. On July 2 the Government buckled, allowing the baht to float downwards. It has since devalued by about 20 per cent in little more than 20 days. Speculators, muscles flexed, have now raised the heat on other local currencies.

Virtually all Asean members suffer from an intense dependency on foreign capital-inflows that can be moved quickly. They have substantial overseas debt and expanding budget and trade deficits.

Long-term, the Tiger potential still *exists for some. But Dr Mahathir's* indignation will not alter the current fragility of his or his neighbours' currencies, and attempts to force out foreign speculation are likely to prove no more promising in future.

WORLD SUMMARY

Montserrat evacuation ruled out

London: Britain said yesterday that it would not evacuate the remaining inhabitants of Montserrat and was committed to helping the islanders overcome the effects of the volcanic eruption there (Michael Binyon writes). Baroness Symons, a Foreign Office minister, said Britain was committed to providing enough long-term aid to make the island viable. Only the northern part is now inhabitable and Plymouth, the capital, is deserted and wrecked.

Policeman jailed

Johannesburg: A traffic policeman in KwaZulu/Natal who killed a British motorcyclist while under the influence of alcohol was yesterday jailed for five years (Inigo Gilmore writes). Pierre du Plessis, who was convicted of culpable homicide in Port Shepstone for the death of Kevin Bradley, said he would appeal. Bradley's family had written to President Mandela asking for justice in the case.

Marseilles fire

Marseilles: A forest fire threatened the northern suburbs here, forcing the evacuation of more than 550 people and injuring 21 firefighters, officials said. About 600 firemen, using water-carrying planes and two helicopters, were battling the flames, which had burnt more than 370 acres of pine trees and scrub by late afternoon. *(AP)*

Kinshasa deaths

Kinshasa: Three people were shot dead and five injured by soldiers in the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, during a march by about 1,000 opposition activists. The demonstrators were protesting against President Kabila's banning of political activity. *(Reuter)*

Time for a break

Quito: Milagros Barahona, *Ecuador's oldest prisoner* at 87, is on the run after he fled from a hospital where he had been taken for medical care. He was serving eight years for selling illegal drugs. *(AFP)*

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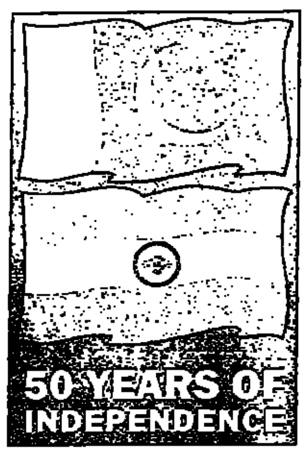
'Untouchable' leader breaks caste barrier

India's dispossessed believe Narayanan's success means that their hour is coming, reports Christopher Thomas



INDIA'S 150 million Untouchables were in awe yesterday as one of their number travelled in a black limousine and then a horse-drawn carriage on his way through the splendour of Lutyens's imperial Delhi to be installed as the nation's tenth president. It represented more than a simple, if enormous, victory for the dispossessed: it carried the bigger message that caste can be beaten.

Kocheril Raman Narayanan, 76, a former career diplomat and the country's Vice-President for the past five years, becomes head of state, supreme commander of the armed forces and the maker and breaker of prime ministers in a country beset by political uncertainty. His rags-to-riches story is a rare example of breaking the curse of being born into untouchability, the most sophisticated system of mass repression.

Less than three weeks from its 50th independence anniversary, India is reminded by President Narayanan's achievement that caste is not the prison it was, even if it still usually defines who a person marries and, to some extent, the occupation that is pursued. The cracks in caste give hope to the downtrodden, but threaten the stability of a society held together by its strict codes of living.

The equality being demanded by Untouchables (or Dalits, the oppressed) threatens the dominant position of northern India's higher castes, throwing the Hindu heartland into a turmoil of change. Southern India long ago did away with Brahminical power, or at least most of it: the changes in the teeming north, however, reverberate louder and deeper.

President Narayanan will be a restraining voice as independent India enters its second half-century, articulating the aspirations of the disadvantaged majority as market forces replace five-year plans and leave the poor more vulnerable. He is the greatest hero of Dalits since Bhimrao Ambedkar, educated in New York as a lawyer by the liberal Maharajah of Baroda, became chief architect of the constitution. Towards the end of his life he renounced Hinduism for Buddhism to escape his caste — a hopeless gesture many Dalits continue to emulate.

Mahatma Gandhi, who coined the hated nomenclature Harijans (Children of God) for Untouchables, has no place in the hearts of those for whom he spoke. He never demanded the destruction of caste, merely its modification, and for that he is unloved by Dalits despite all he did.

Gandhi: failed to win hearts of Untouchables

Ambedkar's exalted status among Untouchables came late, beginning in the 1960s after he was dead.

Ambedkarisation is now engulfing the Hindu heartland. Government buildings, parks, roads, hospitals, guest houses and town districts are being built and named after him. Statues are appearing on hundreds of prime sites at enormous cost, sometimes at the instigation of high-caste politicians who realise they must bow to caste inferiors.

Untouchables feel their hour is coming, a dangerous optimism that may prove premature. But it does seem unlikely that India will tolerate another Brahmin Prime Minister: Jawaharlal Nehru was the first, P. V. Narasimha Rao perhaps the last. Northern India's Brahmins, merely 3 or 4 per cent of the population, are finally losing their grip on privilege.

President Narayanan is seen as the new voice of Ambedkar, speaking for India's conscience, bringing dignity and international diplomatic experience to the highest office in the land.

☐ **Patna:** Laloo Prasad Yadav, a Bihar state political leader with great influence over India's central government, resigned yesterday after a judge ordered his arrest on corruption charges.

Mr Yadav's wife, Rabri Devi, was named by party members to finish his term. She is not a state assembly member, but was expected to be sworn in later yesterday. A.R. Kidwai, the Governor, did not immediately announce whether he had accepted the resignation.

A police report listed charges against 56 people in connection with the theft of tens of millions of dollars earmarked to buy animal feed for state-run dairy farms. All the accused, including Mr Yadav, deny the charges. *(AP)*

SUNIL MALHOTRA / REUTER

Kocheril Raman Narayanan reviews a guard of honour in Delhi yesterday shortly after being sworn in as the tenth President of India

Pakistan missile test spurs arms race

Indo-Pakistan rhetoric has cooled but suspicions remain over nuclear ambitions, writes Christopher Thomas in Delhi

PAKISTAN'S announcement that it has successfully fired an indigenously produced surface-to-air missile marks an escalation of the arms race with India.

South Asia's two most powerful countries are among the few nations in the world still increasing defence spending.

The Defence Ministry in Islamabad said the Anza missile was tested from a site 60 miles from Islamabad, along with an anti-tank guided missile. The announcement comes at a time of suspicion that China is selling the short-range M11 missile to Pakistan and helping to build a factory for its manufacture.

It also coincides with Pakistani claims that India is making "progressive" moves to position its own Prithvi short-range missiles on the Indo-Pakistan border. Islamabad said its anxieties had been increased by reports in Washington that a handful of the missiles had been moved to the border. Delhi has denied the reports.

Pakistan's reaction to the claim has been uncommonly low key — part of a new trend as both countries seek to moderate the shrill rhetoric that has marked most of the past 50 years of cross-border tension.

Indian commentators have described Pakistan's response to the Prithvi controversy as "mature", a rare public tribute to its longstanding enemy. The sight of Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani Prime Minister, and Inder Kumar Gujral, his Indian counterpart, hugging and shaking hands — as well as chatting to each other in three shared languages — has done much to scale down the familiar Indo-Pakistan slanging match. But suspicions remain high, and deployment of the Prithvi cannot be ruled out as India's reply to continued Pakistani support for Kashmiri separatists.

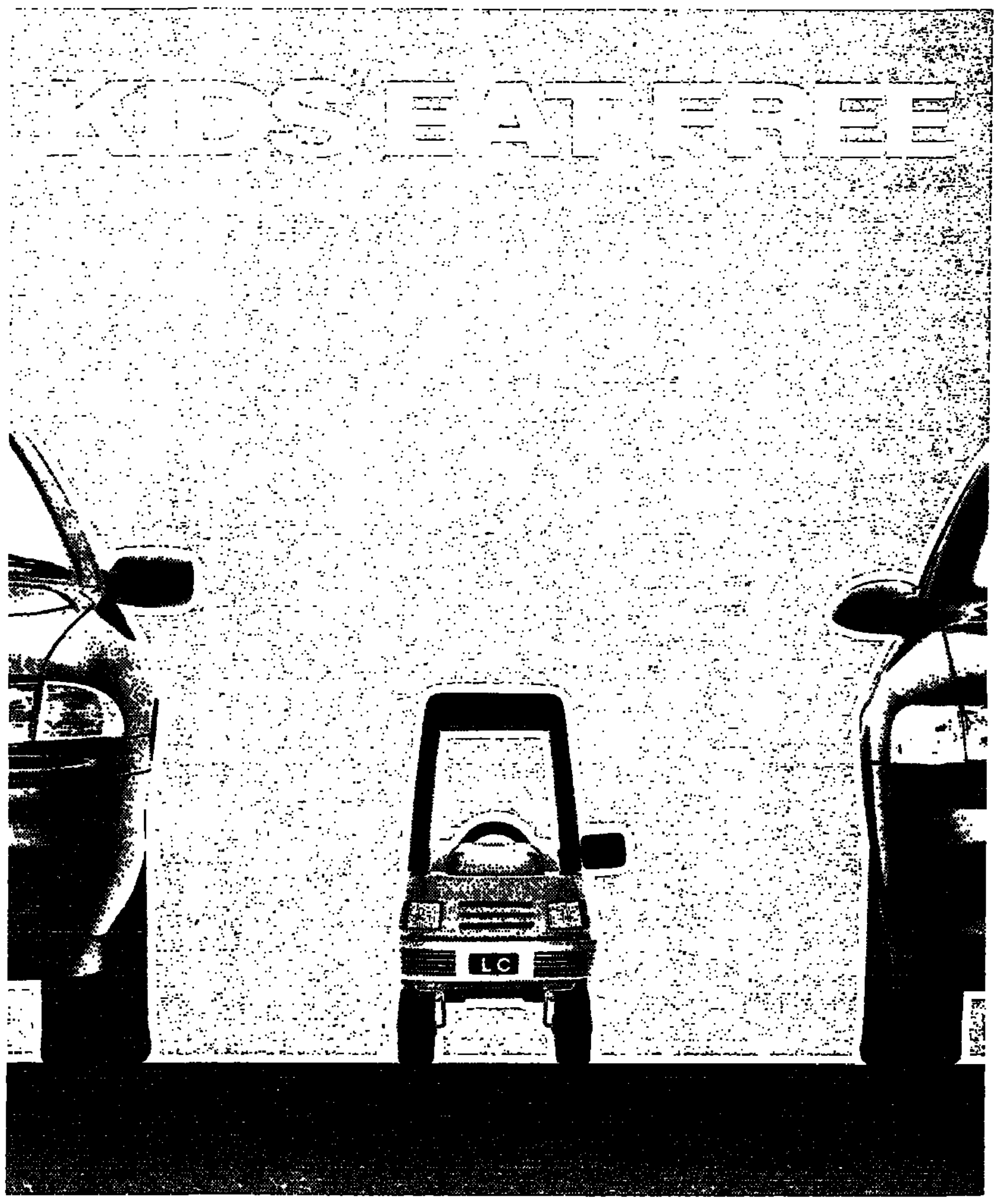
India has spent billions of dollars developing the weapon, which is capable of carrying nuclear warheads. It is a matter of national pride, as is the nuclear programme. Any decision to deploy Prithvi on the border with Pakistan would almost certainly bring a swift response. The missile has been developed specifically to be targeted at Pakistan; the longer-range Agni has been developed to strike inside China.

The United States imposed trade sanctions on China in 1981 and 1993 for sending M11 components to Pakistan, but these penalties were lifted in 1994 after Beijing pledged to abide by international agreements prohibiting the sale of such weapons. The US Central Intelligence Agency is convinced China is reneging on the promise.

American satellites have identified a possible M11 factory near Rawalpindi, a short distance from Islamabad, the Pakistani capital. India and Pakistan have the technology to build nuclear weapons, and the race to develop ballistic missiles to deliver them has reached a decisive phase.

Washington's displeasure with India's nuclear programme has been heightened by the proposed sale of two Russian nuclear reactors to Delhi. Attempts by the US to persuade Russia to cancel the deal have failed.

☐ **Colombo:** Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani Prime Minister, urged India to withdraw its missiles from striking range of Pakistan. Visiting Sri Lanka, Ms Bhutto, now Opposition Leader, blamed the West for failing to stop India. Pakistan has "nuclear knowledge and a missile delivery system", she added. *(AP)*



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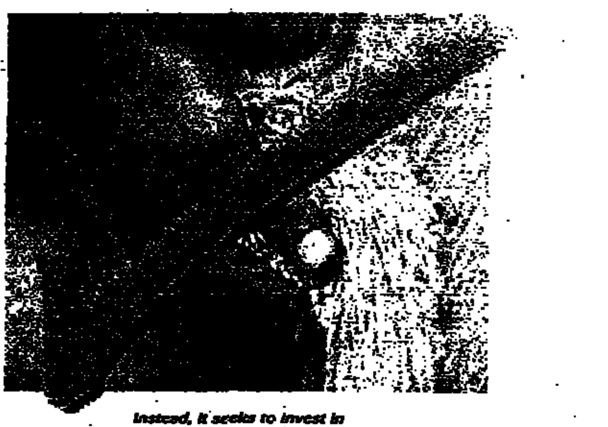

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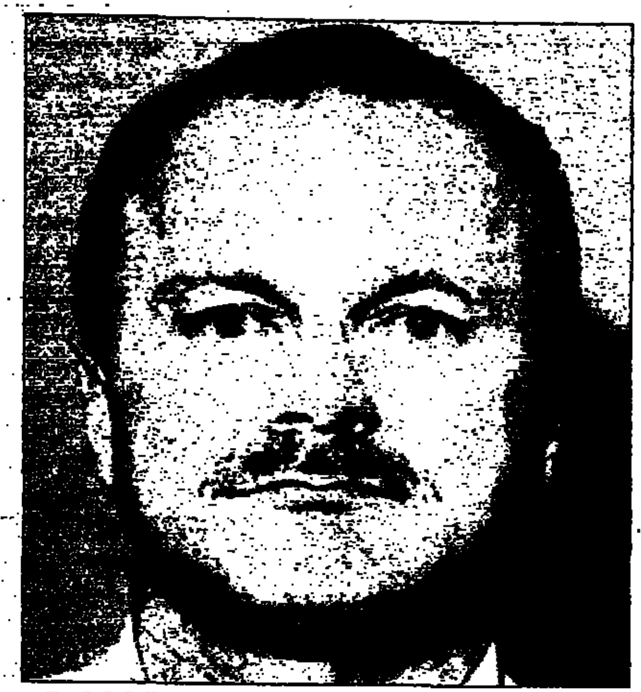
Church to pay abused altar boys $119m

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES


Rudolph Kos, awaiting trial for criminal molestation

A TEXAS jury has made legal history and dealt a grave blow to the Roman Catholic Church, ordering the diocese of Dallas to pay $119 milliion (£70 million) in damages for ignoring a "mountain of evidence" and covering up the long-term sexual abuse of 11 altar boys by a priest.

The damages, thought to be ten times higher than in any previous judgment of its kind, should send a message to "the bishops of United States and of the world — including Rome — that this kind of abuse must stop", a lawyer for the boys said after the verdict was read in a packed Dallas court on Thursday.

Rudolph Kos, now defrocked and awaiting trial on criminal molestation charges, routinely spent the night with boys in his charge and, even in public, would "rub them against him" as if they were a towel with which he was drying himself, according to church correspondence presented at the trial.

Lawyers for the diocese never contested the charges of systematic abuse of the boys aged 11 to 18 by Kos during his 11 years as a pastor in three Dallas churches. Nor did they contest the claim that molestation led one of Kos's victims, 22-year-old Jay Lemberger, to commit suicide in 1992.

"This diocese was clearly wrong, but at the time it was making what it thought were reasonable judgments," Randal Mathis, a church attorney, said of senior churchmen's failure to discipline or reassign Kos, despite repeated warnings from his colleagues.

Thursday's verdict came as a stinging indictment of church complacency over an issue that has simmered for decades and is now likely to resurface in courts across the country. Settling pending sex abuse cases could now cost the Catholic Church in America well over $1 billion, the Rev Tom Economus, who has studied such cases, told *Dallas Morning News*. The church has already spent up to $650 million settling similar cases, another expert said.

Protocol was cast aside in Judge Anne Ashby's court after the verdict. A statement from the jury read by the judge asked the church to "admit your guilt and allow these young men to get on with their lives". It brought a 30-second standing ovation from observers after which Judge Ashby removed her robe and sat down next to several of the abused men, now aged 18-31, who testified against Kos. "I have been so close to your tragedy. It just breaks my heart," she said.

Kos, who now works as a legal assistant in San Diego, was first assigned to North Saints Church in Dallas in 1981 and within a few months was inviting boys to spend a night with him in his rectory room, the plaintiffs testified.

As early as 1985 a superior complained to top church officials about the sleepovers but Kos was not removed from pastoral work until the first official complaint from a teenage victim in 1992.

Robert Hultz, whose share of Thursday's verdict was $6.8 million, gave anguished testimony of submitting to oral sex with Kos and then being abused again in a church shower which the pastor said would "cleanse him with holy water". Plaintiffs also testified that Kos regularly gave them alcohol and diazepam, a muscle relaxant.

When asked after the trial what he would do if he saw Kos again, Mr Hultz said: "I think I would kill the man. I have lost ten years of my life."

The damages are intended to compensate him for future mental anguish and loss of earnings owing to psychological problems. Most of the $119 million is likewise intended for future counselling and health care costs for Kos's victims.

Outside the court, Nancy Lemberger whose son Jay triggered the investigation of Kos by committing suicide, said her son had been "murdered by the Dallas diocese".

Kos effectively admitted molesting boys earlier this year, telling the *Dallas Morning News* he could not remember "which ones I had sex with", though he has written to Bishop Charles Grahmann of Dallas denying some of the charges against him. He is unlikely to be held personally liable for any of the damages since under Texas law he is considered insolvant.

The diocese has said it is considering an appeal. It is insured by Lloyds of London, whose legal representative at the trial, Richard Johnson, hinted at a possible struggle for the church should it claim the damages from Lloyds.

☐ **New York:** There are enormous variations in wealth between one diocese and another (Tunku Varadarajan writes). The diocese of Dallas, however, is regarded as one of America's wealthiest. Its annual income has been estimated at over $500 million.

VICTOR R. CAIVANO : AP

Nethan Nichols, one of Kos's victims, hugs another plaintiff after the Dallas court announced its verdict

Wealthy New Yorkers bemoan invasion of Hamptons hideaway

You have to murder for a car space and there are thousands on the beaches in this once idyllic setting, indignant residents complain to **Tunku Varadarajan**

LONG-TIME residents of The Hamptons, the fabled Long Island hideaway for New Yorkers with Old Money, are complaining that their Eden is going rapidly to the dogs.

Muttering darkly of mutiny, many are indignant about the latest invasion of their well-groomed privacy. Helicopterloads of Germans bearing maps have descended on the area, intent on having their slice of life à la Gatsby.

The Hamptons — which is what Americans call the south fork of Long Island — is New York city's playground. Its little hamlets — Southampton, Bridgehampton, East Hampton, Sag Habor to name but a few — are havens to which the wealthy flock in summer.

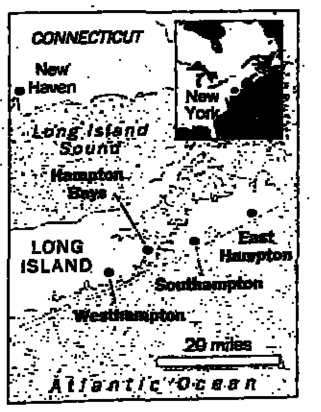
The south fork has some of the finest beaches in the world, but to many residents that feature is now academic. Michael Thomas, a columnist for *The New York Observer*, says: "The beaches are as crowded now as Lexington Avenue on Christmas Eve. You've got to get there at eight in the morning to stand any chance of finding a place to lie down."

Mr Thomas talks wistfully of the days before the Wall Street boom of the 1980s propelled its *nouveaux riches* hordes to his gentle shores. "Where there were once a few hundred visitors in summer, there are now thousands. The beaches are packed. The roads are clogged with cars. There's no parking space to be had by *any means other than murder*.

"We're an insecure people. We think it's better to be in the right place and be uncomfortable than in a less well-known place and have the time of our lives," he added.

Charles Dubow echoes this lament. He is the great-great grandson of B. F. Goodrich, who founded the tyre manufacturing company, and also descended from John Cabell Breckinridge, who was Vice-President of America from 1857 to 1861. His family has kept a home in The Hamptons for decades. Now, he can "hardly bear to go sometimes".

He says: "The place is not dead, but it's in awful decline. It was once charming, unpretentious and gentle. You had village shops selling goods to the residents. Now you've got Ralph Lauren boutiques and Donna Karan outlets. The parties have changed, too. Where once the conversation was about art, or Jackson's latest painting, all they talk about now is how much they paid for their co-op apartment in Park Avenue." The Hamptons, explains Mr Dubow, are paying for their proximity to New York. Not only has it served as a magnet to "Wall Street brokers who now think they're polo players", it has also attracted the likes of Steven Spielberg and Calvin Klein.



This, in turn, has brought gawkers. Mr Dubow has lost count of the number of times someone has tapped him on the shoulder and asked him if he knows where Spielberg lives. "It's a veritable plague," he says, "like modern-day locusts."

Mr Thomas is angry about the destruction of the landscape: "There used to be great, vast fields where potatoes were grown. There were lovely cornfields too. They've all gone now, or are going. The fertile fields of The Hamptons are now given over exclusively to the cultivation of stockbrokers' homes."

These buildings, which Mr Dubow decribes as "unattractive and modernist", have mushroomed everywhere, robbing The Hamptons of the idyllic nature which drew brokers there in the first place. "One day," says Mr Thomas, "people will wake up and discover that nobody's enjoying this any more ... I'm going to go Jamaica next summer. It has the same temperature, the same warm sea, and far fewer idiots."

President of Peru 'was born in Japan'

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI
SOUTH AMERICA
CORRESPONDENT

A PERUVIAN magazine has published evidence indicating that President Fujimori may have lied about his age, and falsified documents to conceal that he was born in Japan — rather then Peru — in order to be eligible for the presidency.

Under the Peruvian constitution, anyone born outside the country is banned from the presidency.

Caretas magazine published an immigration document, signed by Señor Fujimori's mother, Monsue Fujimori, in which she had declared she was entering Peru in 1934 with two children under the age of ten. President Fujimori and his sister Juana are the oldest of five children. The document contradicts the President's claims that he is 58 and that his parents did not have children when they arrived in Peru.

The magazine printed a copy of a tampered christening certificate, which has been evidently corrected where it asks for place of birth. "Lima, Peru, was so obviously written in over the word Japan," said Cecilia Valenzuela, the journalist who has been investigating the story for the past four years. "It's not even that difficult to read traces of what has been blotted out."

But a cousin of the President in Japan said the magazine article was a hoax. Nobuo Ishihara, 68, said: "It's completely groundless." The city hall in Kumamoto, southern Japan, the hometown of the President's parents, denied there is any record of him being born in Japan.

Cosby 'daughter' guilty of extortion

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

THE 22-year-old woman who claims to be the daughter of Bill Cosby was found guilty yesterday of attempting to extort $40 million (£25 million) from the popular entertainer.

Autumn Jackson shook her head vigorously from side to side, cupped her hand over her mouth, and wept aloud as the Manhattan Federal court jury found against her after three days of intense deliberation. Jackson will be sentenced on October 22. The offence carries a maximum penalty of 12 years in prison. She was also found guilty of conspiracy and crossing state lines to commit a crime.

Co-defendant Jose Medina, 51, was convicted of the same three counts. A third defendant, Boris Sabas, 42, was convicted of conspiracy and crossing state lines, but acquitted of extortion charges.

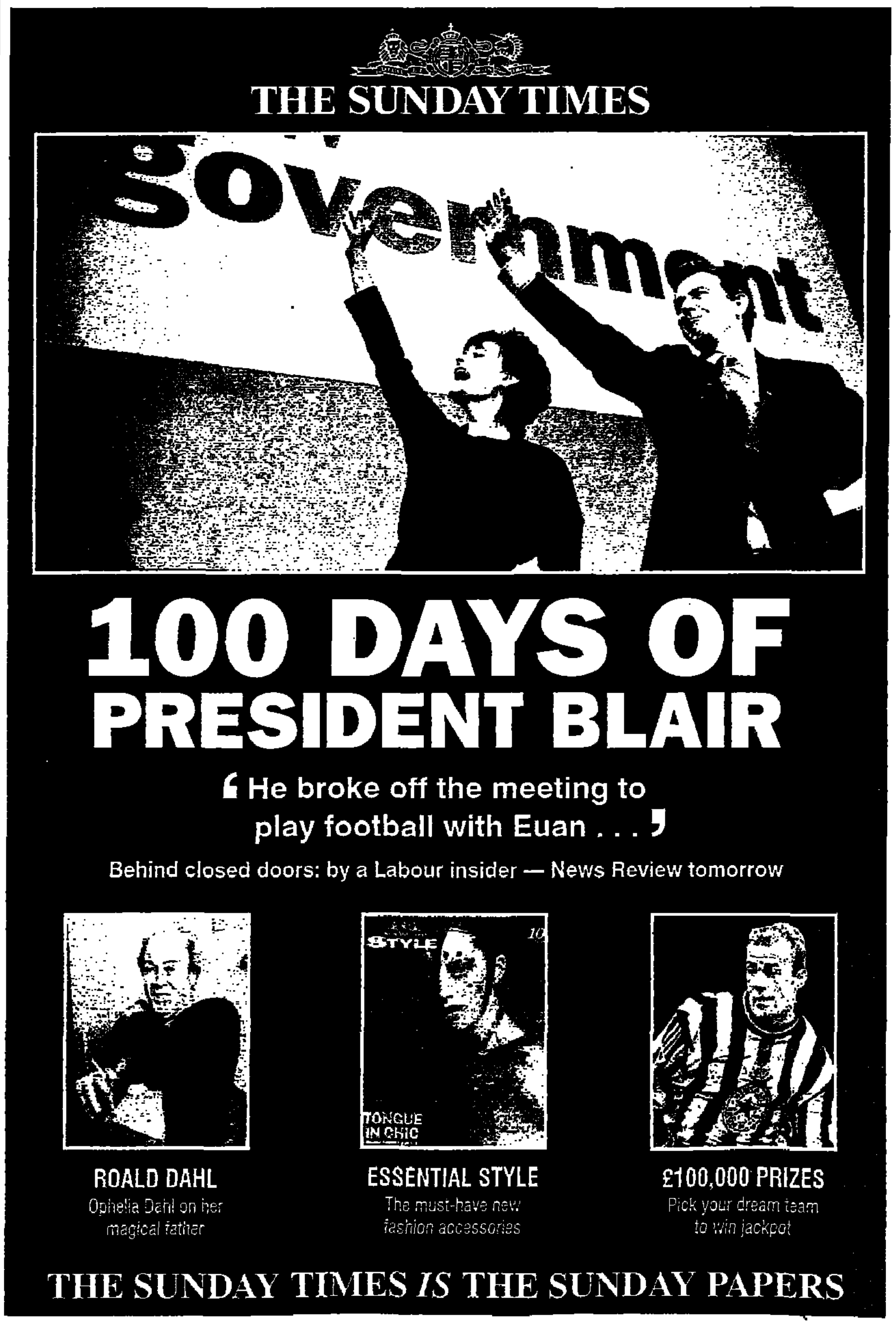
Earlier, the judge had instructed the jury that the question of Jackson's paternity, which she had made the cornerstone of her defence, was irrelevant to the extortion trial.

Yesterday, Robert Baum, the woman's lawyer, insisted that the paternity question would be relevant to the sentencing. He described his client as "devastated by the verdict, and inconsolable".

The nub of the case was relatively simple: Jackson was accused of trying to extort money from Mr Cosby by threatening to take the story of her alleged paternity to a supermarket tabloid if he did not pay her $40 million.

"I need monies and I need monies now," she threatened.

Mr Cosby decided to inform the FBI after Jackson sent a letter to CBS television saying that he — "the world's most famous father" — had "left his daughter cold, penniless and homeless".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Cook to warn Bosnian Serbs of aid cuts

By MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ROBIN COOK, the Foreign Secretary, sets off on Monday for Bosnia with a blunt warning to the Bosnian Serbs that unless they begin implementing the Dayton peace accords they could face new sanctions, lose Western aid and come under increasing political and military pressure.

But yesterday Biljana Plavsic, the President of Republika Srpska, rejected a key demand of the allies when she insisted that Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb leader, and other war crime suspects could not be extradited to the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

"According to our constitution, not only Karadzic but no one else can be extradited. The extradition is forbidden by our constitution," Mrs Plavsic told reporters in her power base in Banja Luka. In meetings with the embattled head of Republika Srpska, as well as Muslim and Croatian leaders, Mr Cook will detail the allies' extradition demands, reiterated by Nato in Portugal last month and at the Madrid summit, as well as practical steps to create a unified and functioning Bosnian state.

"I expect some frank exchanges — particularly on the need for reintegration within the Dayton framework, but also on war criminals, corruption and media freedom," Mr Cook said in a statement. He will tell Bosnia's factional leaders that progress towards normalising civilian life has been "seriously inadequate", and he will insist that they abandon ethnic-based politics and allow the return of refugees, the opening of frontiers and the handing back of property.

Among the measures that Nato insists must be implemented are: convening the standing committee on military matters, which has not met for months; naming ambassadors to represent a unified Bosnia overseas; implementing citizenship and passport laws not based on ethnicity and adopting flags and symbols for the whole country; operating a unified civil aviation system so that flights could come into Bosnia's airports; putting forward an economic reconstruction plan; and extending the deadline of seven days for lodging claims to abandoned property.

Mr Cook is prepared for some harsh words and angry demonstrations, especially by Serbs infuriated by the recent British operation to arrest two wanted war crime suspects in Prijedor. British officials said he was prepared for the Serbs, who have been throwing grenades at Nato vehicles and installations, to "make a noise" during his visit. But the officials said the raid had toughened Mr Cook's credibility. "The British have shown in recent days that they're prepared to act as well as to talk," a senior official said.

Mr Cook will visit Mrs Plavsic in Banja Luka to encourage her in her life-or-death struggle against Dr Karadzic and his hardline supporters in Pale. "Plavsic is no angel. But you have to make bread with the small amount of flour you've got, and that's where we are. She has increasingly seen that it is in the interest of the people who support her that Dayton should be implemented," an official said.

Yesterday Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, on a visit to Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, gave a veiled warning of further military snatches, and suggested that the international community would not tolerate the presence of war criminals in Bosnia indefinitely.

Yeltsin tells demoralised army to trust in reforms

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN expressed his sympathy yesterday with the "hungry conscripts and unpaid officers" of Russia's demoralised armed forces, while insisting that his plans for military reform were the only way to restore their effectiveness and prestige.

Mr Yeltsin, speaking during a regular weekly radio address to the nation, said that he was deeply concerned about the conditions faced by the armed forces, many members of which have been unpaid for months. In some remote regions, soldiers face acute food shortages, leading to reports of starvation and malnutrition.

"My heart aches for our hungry conscripts and for our officers who are not paid on time, for their families roaming about for years with nowhere to live," he said. "That is why I have taken the situation in the armed forces under my personal control."

President Yeltsin yesterday repeated his pledge to pay all officers their overdue wages by September.

The Russian military has suffered a drastic decline since the collapse of Soviet power. With massive cutbacks, top-rank corruption and gross inefficiency, prestige in the once-mighty military machine plummeted after Russia's humiliation in Chechnya.

The recall of Russian forces from former Warsaw Pact countries also caused a catastrophic shortage of housing for officers, thousands of whom have been living in tents, railway carriages or disused farm buildings with their families.

Their financial plight has driven scores to suicide. Earlier this week, an army colonel died of burns after pouring petrol over himself and setting himself alight near a Metro station in southern Moscow. Suicide is also common in the lower ranks, where conscripts have to endure the system of *dedovshchina*, a ritual of cruelty and sexual abuse meted out by NCOs to new recruits, while officers usually turn a blind eye.

Draft-dodging has become the rule rather than the exception, to the extent that almost anyone with money, influence or reasonable intelligence will find a way to gain exemption. Desertion is commonplace.

Mr Yeltsin has long spoken of the need to transform Russia's huge, amorphous conscript army into a smaller, efficient professional force, better equipped to deal with the demands of the post-Cold War era. But he faces tough opposition from the military itself. Two months ago he dismissed General Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister, for failing to implement reforms.

The new incumbent, General Igor Sergeyev, has pledged to cut back troop numbers by 500,000 to 1.2 million by the end of next year, to reorganise and merge army units and to privatise some Defence Ministry property.

But the plans are vigorously opposed by influential figures within the armed forces. Last month Lev Rokhlin, the popular general who heads the State Duma's defence committee, wrote an open letter to Mr Yeltsin denouncing the reforms, which he said amounted to the ruin of the armed forces.

General Rokhlin has been backed by the Communists and other main opposition groups, as well as several senior army figures, including General Rodionov.

AFP

Cycle cops to stop Paris sex pedlars

THESE officers and their mountain bikes will start patrolling the Bois de Boulogne in Paris next week as the ecologically efficient answer to cracking down on prostitution there (Ben Macintyre writes). The Paris cycling police, disbanded in 1984, were known as *les hirondelles* (the swallows) due to their flowing capes and peaked-caps, but the latter-day version is kitted out in modern uniforms, including cycle shorts and baseball caps for hot days. On Monday two teams of 12 police officers, both men and women, will begin patrolling the Bois de Boulogne and the Bois de Vincennes, the popular woodland parks to the east and west of Paris. A spokesman for the Paris prefecture said that the new force would clamp down on kerb-crawling in the woods by "guaranteeing safety, especially that of young people against physical attacks and sexual crimes". More than 2,600 people were arrested for prostitution in the Bois de Boulogne in 1994. In 1950 Paris had a force of 5,000 bicycle police, but these gradually gave way to police motorbikes and squad cars. The city authorities recently introduced a network of cycle lanes in the French capital and eventually the prefecture plans to deploy mountain-bike officers throughout the city since they can often cut through the traffic jams faster than their motorised colleagues. However, many of the cycle lanes are ritually ignored by Parisians and the new fleet of cycle cops will have the additional and highly dangerous task of trying to prevent motorists from driving down them at speed.

More rain and rising Oder put 20,000 Germans at risk

German rescue workers attempt to save a deer yesterday

By DEBORAH COLLCUTT

THE 14,000-strong force battling against the worst flooding in Germany this century had to abandon a long section of a river yesterday after strong currents surged through defences.

Low-lying villages on the Polish and German sides of the Oder river were inundated after a dyke between Brieskow-Finkenheerd and Eisenhüttenstadt collapsed.

While the situation in flood-battered Poland and the Czech Republic, where 128 people have died, has become stable, Germany faces the worst of the disaster this weekend, with 20,000 people facing evacuation. The authorities are very concerned that they cannot hold back the swollen Oder any longer after managing to contain the floodwaters by shoring up weakened dykes with millions of sandbags. Even if the unseasonally wet weather clears up, they believe the region will be flooded for at least another two weeks. The big fear is that river defences will not hold out that long.

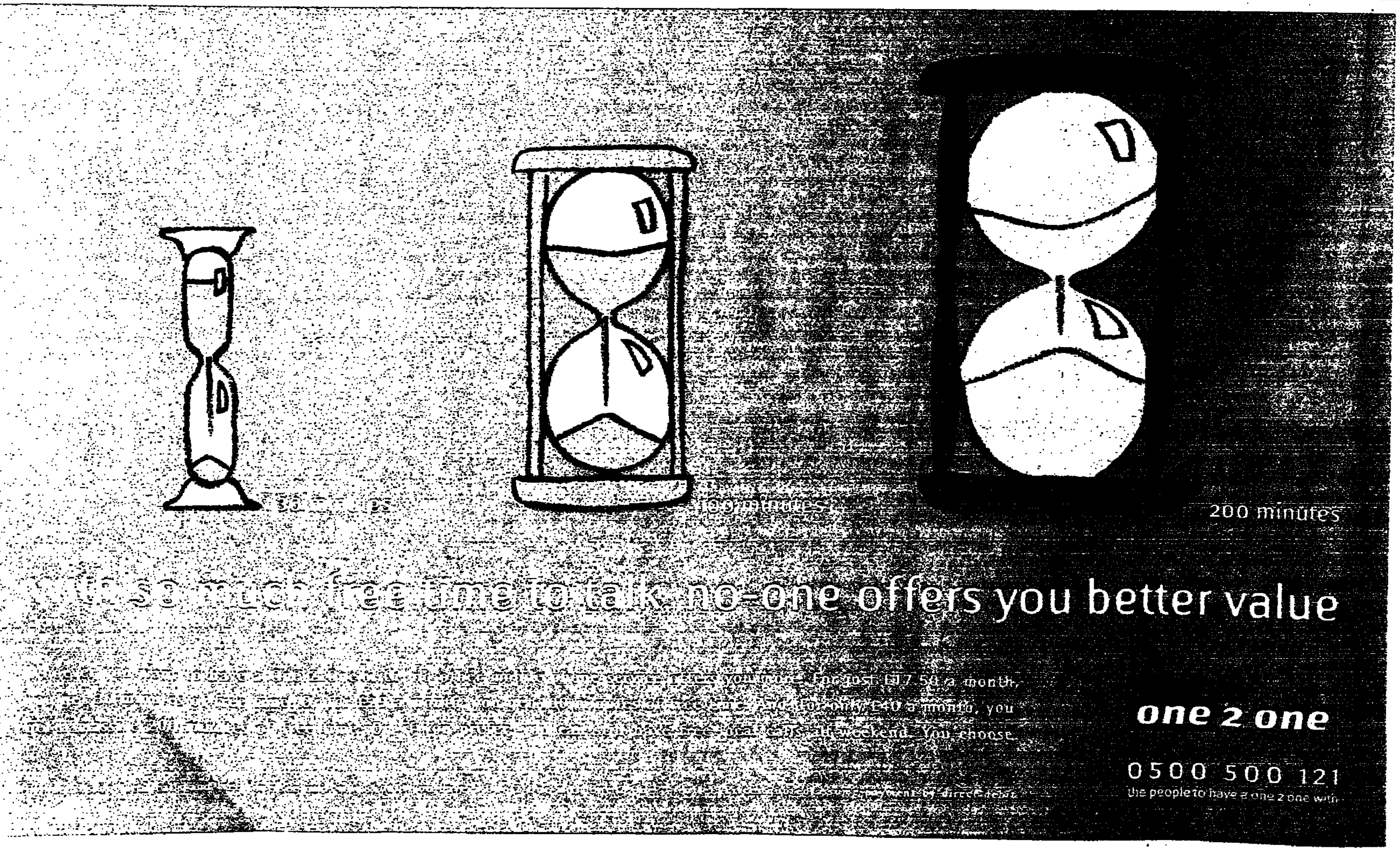
"The dykes are not designed to withhold such extreme pressure over a prolonged period of time," said Rainer Speer, a Brandenburg official. "The situation is becoming more critical with every day that passes."

More than 6,000 residents from villages to the south of the main border town with Poland, Frankfurt an der Oder, were evacuated early yesterday. Dykes north and south of the town are being breached and by last night the flooded area had extended in a 50-mile radius from the Polish border.

About 20,000 residents in Oderbruch, where the Oder, flowing from Poland, and the Neisse river, from the Czech Republic, meet, may have to leave their homes today if water levels rise as high as experts predict. Heavy rains deluged the entire region yesterday and more is forecast for this weekend and next week.

A force of police officers, firemen, 8,300 soldiers and local volunteers have been working day and night in Brandenburg to keep the flood waters at bay.

In Poland and the Czech Republic thousands have been made homeless and farmers are facing financial ruin. The cost of the flood damage to the entire region has so far been put at hundreds of millions of pounds and the bill is still rising.



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Surrealist poet divides French along party lines

AVIGNON FILE by BEN MACINTYRE

FESTIVITIES to mark the centenary of the birth of Louis Aragon, the celebrated French poet, kicked off at the Avignon Festival last week with "an evening of hommage" organised by the Communist Party, a concert by the cellist Mstislav Rostropovich and a blazing literary-political row.

Fifteen years after his death at the age of 85, Aragon remains a source of embarrassment to France's elected authorities and enduring controversy within the ranks of the modern Communist Party.

One of France's most venerated love-poets and novelists, Aragon was a quintessential *homme de lettres*, a founder member of the Surrealist movement, a heroic Resistance fighter and a patriot whose verses gave heart to a deeply demoralised nation. He was also a die-hard Communist from the 1920s, churning out propaganda for the party and, in the words of one contemporary, "as ruthless as a Soviet secret police chief".

Aragon's fawning obituary of Stalin began: "Only once before in my life have I felt such a sense of sorrow and personal loss, and that was after my mother's death."

Robert Hue, the leader of the French Communist Party, has accused the French cultural authorities of failing to accord Aragon the honours he deserves on the centenary of his birth.

"Aragon, while he was one of us and a Communist to his last breath, does not belong to us alone." M Hue remarked in Avignon. "It would be good if France paid homage to his talent, his great genius, and I shall be *pointing this out to* the French authorities."

Certainly President Chirac is steering clear of the Aragon festivities. Earlier this year, M Chirac agreed to make a pilgrimage to the mill at Villeneuve where Aragon is buried, and an informal visit was fixed for May 24. When this turned out to be the day before the first round of parliamentary elections, M Chirac, keen to avoid giving symbolic ammunition to the Communists, postponed the trip to "sometime in the autumn", or never.

Rostropovich was a close friend of Aragon, but while happy to perform Bach's fifth suite in his memory last week, the Soviet-born cellist was anxious to emphasise: "This is a gesture of artistic friendship."

Aragon remains a cult figure on the French far-left and many Communist candidates took advantage of this year's *centenary to quote the poet*, sometimes at toe-curling length, during the election campaign when the Communists won 38 seats and the balance of power.

But M Hue is painfully aware that the poet is a politically dubious figurehead for the reformed Communist Party. As Pierre Daix, the writer, observed in the magazine *Lire*, many French people have an image of Aragon as "a doddery old man ... going to pick up a medal from the Soviet Embassy ordered by Brezhnev to mark his 75th birthday."

It is precisely this impression of Aragon that M Hue is determined to play down. The party leadership has emphasised the poet's years as a Surrealist rather than those as as a Stalinist — conveniently forgetting that the Surrealist movement was formerly condemned by the Communist Party.

Already some on the left of the party have suggested that Aragon is being "sanitised", but the party leadership is insistent that Aragon "belongs to all the French, to universal literature and will thus be celebrated primarily as a literary, rather than as a political figure".

On his death in 1982, Aragon was accorded an official Communist Party funeral at which Pierre Mauroy, the then Socialist Prime Minister, paid tribute. The celebrations (and argument) will culminate on October 4, the centenary of Aragon's birth.

That gives the new Socialist Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, just three months to decide whether to attend the ceremony — and appear to condone Aragon's political views — or avoid it, thus annoying his Communist allies and inviting charges of disrespect towards one of France's literary giants.

CAMERA PRESS

Aragon: Communist Party attempting to play down his years as a Stalinist

Gnome terror sweeps South

FRANCE'S most shadowy terrorist group has struck fear into garden ornamentalists throughout Avignon by stealing 15 plastic gnomes from the garden of a retired police chief.

The Front de Libération de Nains de Jardins (Front for the Liberation of Garden Gnomes) has carried out several such operations over the past year, carrying off the tiny bearded fellows in what appears to be a committed campaign to bring better taste to France's back gardens. The gnomes are repainted and "released" in the wild.

Auguste Catelan woke up last week to find that his entire collection of gnomes, widely regarded as one of the finest in the region, had been removed. The abductors left a polite note: "The FLNJ wishes you a very good morning!"

Hitherto the front has restricted its operations to northern France, and experts say that the extension of the campaign to the south and the targeting of a former police chief suggest that the group's war of liberation is growing more bold and wide-ranging.

M Catelan's neighbours around the town of Pujaut, in the gnome-rich suburbs of Avignon, have mounted a vigilante patrol. Local newspapers reported that the missing gnomes were spotted at a Swiss campsite.

Cue for stage fright

THE key to great theatre is timing, so Catherine Trautmann, the new Culture Minister, could have wished for a better cue when she arrived in Avignon to explain how the Socialist Government would promote the arts.

In her first public address, Mme Trautmann spoke movingly of France's impoverished cultural institutions and of the importance of new initiatives in arts funding. "The *situation is catastrophic*," she said, amid the splendours of the Pope's Palace.

But Mme Trautmann's address to the Socialist Cultural Meeting might have been rather more telling if, the day before, the Government had not decided to lop FFr1.3 billion (£126 million) off the culture budget, reducing it by roughly 10 per cent. "I ask to be judged on what I will do after this black year," she pleaded, which was rather like telling a theatre audience to come back when the performance gets better.

At the same event last year, M Jospin brought the house down when he told the Avignon audience that a Socialist government would aim to spend a massive 1 per cent of the entire national *budget on culture*.

At the end of her brave performance, the audience of 500 elected officials, writers, actors, directors and other artists applauded unenthusiastically. Mme Trautmann exited, stage Left. There was no demand for an encore.

Internet provider forced to respect privacy

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA ONLINE, the troubled Internet giant, has been forced to back down from a plan to sell home telephone numbers and personal details of its 8.5 million customers to telemarketing firms.

The about-turn from America's largest service provider came after pressure from customer groups and legal authorities, but has still left regulators deeply concerned about the lack of privacy safeguards on the Internet.

America Online fudged the climbdown by saying its employees would still be allowed to make marketing calls on behalf of other companies.

American families are interrupted constantly by telephone calls from hard-sell marketing companies trying to flog everything from medical insurance to cheaper phone calls.

America Online customers were enraged not only by the plan, which was due to take effect at the end of this month, but also by its failure to tell them in advance. On Thursday, it sent a letter informing them that they could opt not to receive telemarketing. That change has been welcomed cautiously.

The company said it had planned to sell the personal details only to CUC International, a seller of discount shopping services with which it struck a $50 million (£30 million) marketing deal this year, and to Tel-Save, seller of cheap, long-distance phone calls, and its partner in a $100 million marketing pact.

ALLAN WELLER

Father Anthimos: had allegedly wanted to break off a long romantic relationship

Greek prelate 'had to be punished', says woman

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

THE woman suspected of killing a London-based Greek Orthodox prelate on Tuesday confessed to the murder yesterday, hours after her arrest outside a convent near Athens, police said.

Katerina Yannakopoulou, 42, claimed the Very Rev Archimandrite Anthimos Eleftheriades had wanted to break off a long relationship with her and "he had to be punished".

Mrs Yannakopoulou had been on the run for two days before a nun in the town of Mandra, 15 miles west of Athens, noticed her riding a bicycle outside the convent's walls late on Thursday night, apparently uncertain about whether to approach the front gate. Though the suspect was wearing a blonde wig, the nun recognised her from newspaper photographs and called the police.

Mrs Yannakopoulou, married and the mother of a 17-year-old son, appeared dazed when caught. After an all-night interrogation, the police said she confessed to having "a long romantic relationship" with 60-year-old Father Anthimos of St Nicholas's Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Shepherd's Bush, west London. "He was like God to me," she said, according to the police. "He knew all my secrets and sins." But when he refused to see her and "wanted to break off the relationship, he had to be punished".

She said she bought a pistol specifically for the purpose, and shot him five times at close range outside his house in Nea Smirni near Athens. Father Anthimos was on holiday in Greece at the time.

Far from leaving false clues to throw police off the scent, Mrs Yannakopoulou said she spent the two days after the shooting cycling around and sleeping on benches, hoping to be caught.

China demotes ex-envoy to London

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND JONATHAN MIRSKY

CHINA'S *Ambassador in* London until earlier this year, Jiang Enzhu, is to head the Hong Kong branch of the Xinhua news agency, Beijing's de facto embassy when the colony was under British rule.

His appointment has surprised diplomats, as it appears to be a clear demotion. He was expected to head China's Foreign Ministry in Hong Kong, a job that went to Mr Jiang's predecessor in London, Ma Yuzhen. Mr Jiang will head an office in Hong Kong that has been much reduced in importance since the handover. *Most of the diplomatic and* defence functions have been transferred to the Foreign Ministry, now completing a huge building in an exclusive Hong Kong residential area.

Diplomatic sources say that Mr Jiang is in poor health. But Western officials suggest two other explanations for his move. One is that Beijing is punishing a man closely involved in the final stages of the handover negotiations for what may now be perceived in China to have been a public relations disaster. The other possibility is that Xinhua will *continue to play a more impor*tant role in Hong Kong than publicly suggested.

China has indicated that the news agency may concentrate more on news-gathering. Chinese journalists have been more visible and more active in Hong Kong since the handover. However, the agency may retain some of its former clandestine functions such as intelligence-gathering and co-ordinating the activities of the United Front, the non-Communist forces in Hong Kong sympathetic to China.

The announcement coincid*ed with another change occa*sioned by the handover. Lu Ping, the Chinese official formerly responsible for Hong Kong and Macau, has retired, but rumour suggests he fell from favour. It is said he is being blamed for wrongly advising Beijing that Chris Patten, the final Governor of Hong Kong, would make the concessions demanded by China.

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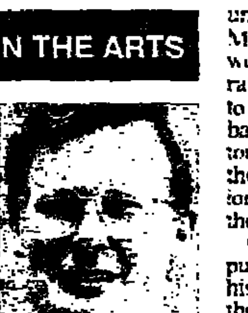

WEEK IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

So what do we think of the "Paul Hamlyn Centre"? Is it right that the South Bank, Britain's biggest arts complex — housing the Royal Festival Hall, no less — should be renamed after a publishing tycoon who stumps up £17 million towards its facelift?

Eyebrows have been raised, and one sees why. Renaming famous buildings could become a habit. Lots of lottery projects are searching for "matching" private money. Will each big gift have to be paid for in 6ft-high gilded letters above the entrance? Will we soon enter the Vivien Duffield Royal Opera House? It's a lovely thought.

Being nice about the stinking rich doesn't come naturally, but in this case I think that we must make the effort. For a start, if anybody deserves his name emblazoned across the Festival Hall it is Hamlyn, who has done more to bring the arts to ordinary people than anybody — and that, shamefully, includes the Arts Council and all the other dullards who are actually paid to do exactly that.

But there is a more general reason to welcome the "Hamlyn Centre". This country suffers from a social climate that discourages *arts philanthropy*. We abhor wealth ostentatiously displayed, even when it benefits us all. That was true even in the days of the great Victorian benefactors: just recall, in his gallery's centenary week, the hostility faced by Henry Tate, sugar-daddy to the first gallery of British art. The British were the original world champions of looking gift-horses in the mouth, and we still hold the title. Witness the sneers, rather than cheers, at Oxford when Wafiq Said offered his £20 million.

In recent years, luckily, the gift horses have trotted along anyway. But the building boom triggered by the lottery now requires arts institutions to find huge chests of private dosh, and they won't be easily prised open unless the motives of patrons are more widely appreciated. What spurs the Gettys and Carnegies into playing the latter-day Maecenas? Pure love of art? Or a desire for some kind of purchased immortality? After all, we do remember Maecenas, 2,000 years on.

One common reason is gratitude towards a nation. Strangely, that is often exhibited by those born elsewhere. Hamlyn was a refugee. London Zoo was saved by £1 million gifts from the Emir of Kuwait (a little thank-you for our Gulf War effort) and an Indian steel magnate. Perhaps people born outside Britain — or those, like Sir Edwin Manton (the insurance man who gave the Tate £7 million), who lived abroad for decades — appreciate our heritage more keenly than the residents.

Another sort of gratitude is evoked by the plaque in the Tate which declares that its founder wanted to make "a thank-offering for a prosperous business career of 60 years". Similarly, when Ross Perot donated $12 million to Dallas's new concert hall, he ordered that the hall be named not after him, but after his junior partner — a gent, unfortunately, with the uninspiring moniker of Morton H. Meyerson. This, Perot explained, would "send a message to corporate America that people who get to where I am often do so on the backs of their colleagues". Very touching, don't you think? Perhaps the Sainsbury Wing at the National Gallery should be renamed the Tracey-on-Checkout Wing.

Of course, not all motives are pure. The elder Rockefeller set up his Foundation at a time when there was anger about his business deals. And sure enough, after about $500 million of good deeds had flown from his coffers, public anger subsided somewhat. Other benefactors make damn nuisances of themselves. They impose conditions: the Burrell Collection cannot travel overseas; the Wallace Collection must be kept intact; Sir Denis Mahon's collection will only go to galleries that don't charge for admission: and so on.

Even worse, the names of some benefactors become positively embarrassing. When Sir Jack Lyons was stripped of his knighthood after the Guinness affair, the managers of both the Sir Jack Lyons Opera Theatre at the Royal Academy of Music and the Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall at York University were set tricky problems of etiquette. Both, however, retain the "Sir" in their titles.

Do patrons distort the purity of art? There is certainly disquiet when Charles Saatchi promotes, and then summarily demotes, an artist from his trend-setting collection. The impression is of artists being treated like the Paris fashions: here today, binned tomorrow. But artists aren't *compelled* to sell their wares to Mr Saatchi.

More worrying was a fascinating book that came out last year — Carol Duncan's *Civilising Rituals: Inside Public Art Museums* — which argued that although private patronage is usually aimed at enhancing public appreciation of the arts, it sometimes paradoxically has the opposite effect. The ordinary punter is made to feel like an outsider briefly allowed to peep at a display of power, wealth and privilege. Which brings us back, I suppose, to the Vivien Duffield Royal Opera House.

"Giving away money effectively is about as hard as earning it in the first place," said Bill Gates recently. Wise words from cyberspace, Bill. The relationship between benefactor and public institution is always going to be delicate, fraught with contradictions and potential misunderstandings. In Britain, we haven't often got it right. We need to get it right now. The next five years could see the most spectacular expansion of enlightened philanthropy in this country's history — or a horrible exacerbation of the them-and-us polarisation that has bedevilled British cultural life for centuries.

DONALD COOPER

The play that rain stopped: Paul Thornley (Hortensio), Issy van Randwyck (Bianca), Graeme Henderson (Lucentio) and Paul Bentley (Gremio)

We open in drizzle, then stop

THEATRE

Kiss Me Kate

Open Air

Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun. But I have yet to see a mad dog enjoying itself in the evening drizzle. As I realised in Regent's Park, that feat is peculiar to the English. Indeed, some of us were extremely annoyed when the opening performance of *Kiss Me Kate* was called off a third of the way through, for Ian Talbot's revival was proving terrific fun.

They had not cancelled a first night at the Open Air for longer than even the box-office manager could remember, so nobody was pessimistic when it was raining at 7.45pm, 15 minutes before start time. Also, the Met Office had told the producers it would be fine by 8pm. So we waited until 8.20, and then trooped trustingly to rather wet seats, trying not to notice the splashing on our heads. "Put down your umbrellas," came the voice of Talbot from the back, and everyone duly made do with anorak hoods, folded newspapers or, in my case, hair. And on went the show.

On for about 15 minutes. That was long enough to establish that Andrew C. Wadsworth's Fred, appearing as Petruchio in *The Shrew*, was wrangling with Louise Gold's Lilli, his former wife as well as his Katherine. It was also enough time for one of Cole Porter's most spirited numbers, *Another Opening, Another Show*. The stage looked perilously slippery, but the chorus hoofed happily away. Not until Gold stomped off with a growl of "Oh, this heat!" did it become impossible to pretend it wasn't raining. The audience roared.

The rain became a downpour, and out we went to drink coffee or mulled wine in the foyer. The spirit of the Blitz vestigially appeared. Strangers spoke to each other. *The Observer* revealed that it was his birthday, and the wife of the *News of the World* that it was her birthday treat. *The Guardian* declared that the Danes had played *Hamlet* during a worse storm at Elsinore. The news came through that the Met Office thought it was a passing shower.

So back in we went again. Men in plastic were mopping the stage floor and covering lights with clingfilm. Talbot came onstage to declare that "all those who stayed are great and all who left are s**ts". The cast would plough on, he vowed. That was the spirit of the Open Air, he added. And on went the show to wild applause, though this time Gold was careful to say "Oh, this rain!" when she stomped off. She and Wadsworth danced about in their dressing gowns singing *Wunderbar*, oblivious to the drizzle, and everyone launched cheerily into *We Open in Venice*.

But can you plough on in a ploughed field? The rain intensified and the brollies reopened. In front of me *The Guardian* huddled beneath one big enough to cover the paper's entire staff. On swaggered Gold in her role as Katherine, looking and sounding tremendous. Then came a voice through a loudspeaker: "The Met Office has told us these conditions are likely to persist the rest of the evening."

It was over. The spirit of the Blitz had yielded to the spirit of the s**ts. And guess what happened as I drove sorrowfully home. It stopped raining.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

More corn than gold

BBC PROMS

Violanta

Albert Hall/Radio 3

On the surface it looked perverse for Opera North to pick Erich Korngold's flashy piece of juvenilia for its midweek visit to the Proms. But this is the composer's centenary — who is going to do the same service for Donizetti in 1997? — and *Violanta* after 80 years was being given its first London performance. Best of all, it gave the orchestra and conductor the chance to show off.

Paul Daniel, in his last appearance with the company before taking up the baton at ENO, seized this opportunity with full fervour. The main quality of the 17-year-old Korngold's steamy tale of sex and revenge on the Giudecca Canal in Venice lies in the orchestration. He uses large forces and is already adept at creating an atmosphere where the blood runs hot and the swords are coming out.

Korngold admirers will be able to spot the seeds of the skills that were to win him acclaim 20 years later in Hollywood as the man who provided the musical surge in the adventure yarns of Michael Curtiz and others.

The vocal writing is another matter. Korngold makes impossible demands on his soprano, Violanta, and the tenor who begins as a victim and ends as an object of desire. A Siegmund and a Sieglinde are required, but the world's leading Wagnerians are hardly likely to take on an immature one-acter containing more corn than gold.

Opera North fielded Janice Cairns and the American tenor Hans Aschenbach. She began scratchily and not always very audibly. Eventually the full Cairns voice came through and, by the time she received a dagger through the heart, was going great guns. Aschenbach as the new-found lover produced some glowing tone but at times appeared fazed by the acoustics of the Albert Hall. The part needs a young Siegfried Jerusalem and there are few of those around. Jonathan Summers was suitably malevolent as the morose husband, under-characterised by Korngold and his librettist, who finishes off the wrong person.

Opera North stayed with a straightforward concert performance rather than the semi-staged evening promised in the prospectus. The sturdy chorus provided background support as assorted boatmen and carnival maskers. But those after real mayhem in Venice should stick with Ponchielli and *La gioconda*, or even *The Tales of Hoffmann*.

The distinctly tenuous link of roots in Venetian *commedia dell'arte* was used as the excuse to open the evening with Stravinsky's *Petrushka* in its 1947 version. Paul Daniel and the English Northern Philharmonia gave it a neat, balletic performance while carefully keeping something in reserve for *Violanta*. Such theatrical cunning will serve him well at ENO.

JOHN HIGGINS

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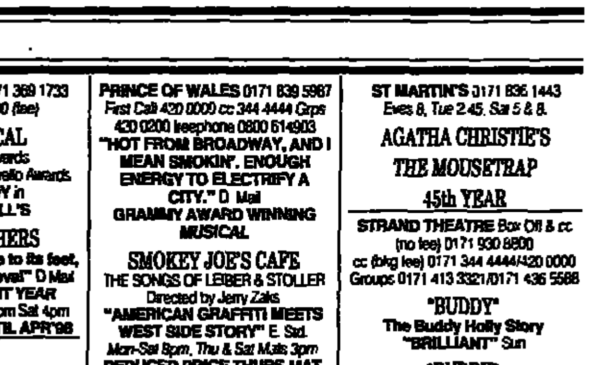

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Philip Howard

■ Should auld xenophobia be forgot, we'll tak' a cup o' Talisker yet . . .

Nae doot there'll be greeting afore bedtime over yon Scottish parliament and its unco First Minister. And that was the Old Norse and Scottish "greet" meaning to blub. But whatever constitutional monstrosities the politicians erect, Scots and English still need each other, as auld stereotypes to define ourselves *against. Kailyard parliamentary questions* will be removed to Edinburgh: for this relief, much thanks. But you cannot unscramble three centuries of shared history and culture. Where would the Scots be without neighbours to whinge about? Where would the English be without neighbours to patronise?

Our relationship was always prickly. The road to union was marked by acrimony. Queen Anne echoed the attitude of many English when she described her Scottish subjects as both "unreasonable" and "strange". The Act of Union passed by only four votes and in storms of mutual xenophobia. Anne gave the royal assent to the union treaty: "I desire and expect from all my subjects of both nations that from henceforth they act with all possible respect and kindness to one another, that so it may appear to all the world they have hearts disposed to become one people." A triumph of hope over thistles.

We should be canny about stereotyping *the Scots as mean, since reckless generosity* is also a national characteristic. There was a letter in *The Times* from an indignant Aberdonian: "Sir, If you print any more jokes about Scotsmen, I will have to stop borrowing your paper." I deplore all jokes which suggest that the Scots are skinflints, such as the one about the Grand Canyon being started by a Scotsman who lost a penny in a ditch. Or the Scotsman who died of starvation on the back seat of a pay-as-you-leave bus. I deplore them all. Because some of my closest friends are Scottish.

And our languages are also so close that Rab C. Nesbitt is unintelligible, even to the *Prime Minister, who was born in Govan.* The Scottish image is both prim and outrageous. Scottish Inglis is more than a dialect, not quite a language. But it is richer and more complex than the southern varieties of English because of its accretions. Gaelic gives it such words as the one in *Chambers* (useful for Scrabble) meaning somebody who lies behind a waterfall wrapped in a cowskin in order to foretell the future. Imported from across the North Sea, golf terminology implies that the game was invented in the United Provinces, not at St Andrews. Norman French lies dormant in Morningside.

From David Hume to James Kelman, Scots have written English with wit to shame the English. Adam Smith glorified the Scotsman on the make in every man. And in *Caledonia,* Anthony Powell gave the snooty English riposte: "Such Mediocrity was ne'er on view./ Bolster'd by tireless Scottish Ballyhoo —/ Nay! In two Qualities they stand supreme:/ Their Self-advertisement and Self-esteem." Hugh MacDiarmid gave the reply.

As a cub reporter, my first job was to report the inchoate Cheltenham Festival. The two speakers were F. R. Leavis and MacDiarmid. On the first day I approached Leavis at breakfast in our grotty B&B and asked for his text. He put down his book and said: "Certainly not. You journalists tell lies and are destroying the English language." So I went to the town hall at 9pm, scribbled, dictated — and not a line went into the paper.

The next day I called on MacDiarmid, who as a Communist was staying at the Queen's, taking a bottle of his open-sesame Talisker. He had dealt with the press before and dictated a brilliant summary of his lecture. I filed. Then I went along to hear the words delivered. But MacDiarmid had finished the Talisker and carried on. So he *fell over climbing* up to the podium, recited a bit of *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle,* and called for questions. Not a word of his summary. So I rushed to the phonebox and cried to the night newsdesk: "Howard from Cheltenham. I need to change my festival story." Frank Roberts: "Excellent piece. Don't change a word. It is running down column eight on the front page." So I left town by the milk train. And the embarrassing correspondence to the Editor ran and ran. MacDiarmid represented the great Scottish Enlightenment dream of universal knowledge, especially when in Talisker. And we English and Scots need each other as enemies and lovers.

Anthony Howard urges Blair to follow Asquith's radical example when he creates up to 25 new peers next week

How the King nearly sent the Lords packing

Lord Strathclyde, the Tory Chief Whip in the House of Lords, recently observed that, if the Government went ahead with its plan to create up to 25 new Labour peers, it would merely provide further evidence of "an elective dictatorship at work". With all due deference to the 2nd Baron Strathclyde, he was talking through his hereditary hat. If any one thing has been remarkable over the past three months, it is the degree of restraint that Tony Blair has shown in his approach to redressing the political imbalance of the Upper House.

The arithmetic is so striking that it is worth rehearsing. There are 480 Tory peers, compared with 126 Labour peers and 55 Liberal Democrats. But the starkest figures are concealed in the guilty secret that, of those 480 Conservative peers, *327 sit* by virtue of birth alone (the equivalent figure for Labour is 14 and for the Liberal Democrats 23).

It is important, too, not to fall for the legend about the 324 cross-bench peers holding the real balance of power. In the *three defeats the Government* has so far sustained in the House of Lords, it was the Tory hereditary peers who provided the Conservative Opposition with its margin of victory. The issues involved — taxing powers for the Scottish parliament and the dates on which referendums should be held in Scotland and Wales — are hardly comparable to that which precipitated the most serious of all confrontations between the two Houses: the *defeat of the People's Budget of* 1909. But what is striking is the difference between the reaction of the Liberal Government then and that of Mr Blair's far less radical new Labour one today.

From the moment the Lords *threw out* Lloyd George's Budget in 1909, the Asquith Liberal Government embarked on a serious campaign of attrition designed to curb the powers and broaden the composition of the Second Chamber. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, like John *Smith after him, had been in* favour of making this the first priority of his Government but he had been forced to yield to Asquith's more cautious instincts. As with his Labour successor nearly 90 years on, he was to die before he could press his case home. Yet if Asquith was a late convert to the Peers v People argument, at least he became a convinced one.

When the issue shifted from powers to membership — as it *did after the Lords' threat to* preserve their own existing privileges by defeating the Parliament Bill of 1910 — it fell to Asquith to handle the delicate negotiations with the Palace. Edward VII proved to be surprisingly amenable to reason. While believing — as one suspects does the present Queen — that a hereditary peerage is an important buttress for a hereditary monarchy, he recognised that the will of the electorate could not be thwarted.

He agonised over a solution, at *one stage coming up with the* bizarre suggestion that he should summon the eldest sons of all the sitting Liberal peers to take their seats alongside their fathers in the Lords (on much the same "acceleration" principle that let in the present Tory leader in the Lords, Viscount Cranborne). But that was not the end of the King's ingenuity. He even contemplated using his prerogative to withhold writs of summons from "ditcher" (meaning last-ditch) Tory peers — *something that would have* caused a constitutional outcry. Edward VII, however, was probably on sounder ground with his most radical proposal of all — that, while every peer should retain the right to sit and speak, only 50 on each side should be entitled to vote. But before these issues could be resolved the King died, leaving this hot potato in the lap of his son, George V.

The "sailor King" had a good deal less imagination than his father, and was not well served *by his deeply conventional joint* private secretary, Arthur Bigge, 1st Baron Stamfordham. The private secretary he inherited from his father Edward VII, the 1st Viscount Knollys, was altogether wilier — and saved the game so far as the monarchy was concerned. George V's first move was to encourage talks between party leaders — a development that bought time as the talks dragged on for five months before irretrievably breaking *down over the Lords' assertion of* its right to an, at least temporary, veto over Irish Home Rule.

That was when the crunch came. Asquith in November 1910 demanded from the King a private promise that, if the Liberals won the general election due the following month, and if the Tories persisted in obstructing the Parliament Bill, then George V would use his constitutional powers to create new peers to carry the Bill into law. *It was a pledge that, for the* unfortunate King, went very much against the grain. He toyed with the idea of refusing his Prime Minister's request — and was only deterred from doing so by a warning from Knollys that if Asquith chose to resign on the issue, then A.J. Balfour, as Leader of the Opposition, would refuse to form a government in such circumstances. (Balfour would, in fact, have eagerly accepted office.)

How near did the Lords come to self-destruction? In the end, they were saved by the 37 Conservative peers, led by Lord Curzon, who voted with govern*ment supporters* in favour of the Parliament Bill. But well before that, in case things went wrong, Asquith had prepared a list of 249 nominations for peerages. (So much for Mr Blair's modest 20-25.) The list was discovered *after* Asquith's death — and one thing Nick Brown, the present Government Chief Whip, might care to note is how far removed it was from today's party wheelhorse style of politics.

There were, it is true, some 19 MPs and 23 Privy Counsellors on the list, but other names took *in* such non-partisan figures as Bertrand Russell, Thomas Hardy, Gilbert Murray, G.P. Gooch, J.M. Barrie and Anthony Hope. What price that kind of literary and academic distinction in Mr Blair's list next week? But, then again, what price the seriousness of his intent about Lords reform? So far the famous Asquithian motto, "Wait and See", would seem to apply far more to the present Prime Minister than to its originator.

The restoration of Conservatism

Maurice Cowling on the impact of new Labour and the Tories' task

Tony Blair's reconstruction of the Labour Party has been a brilliantly high-political operation — an attempt to persuade the middle and working classes to vote the same way and a continu*ation of the tactic employed by* the Fabians in the 1880s, MacDonald in the 1920s, Gaitskell in the 1960s, and the Gang of Four in the 1980s.

About Mr Blair's public manner there is a faintly priggish aspect which is concealed by his energy and youthfulness and will not be seen for what it is until something begins to go wrong. His strength at present is that the Labour Party is not the Conservative Party and that no one expects him to do very much.

The time, however, will come when the honeymoon will be over, when a Green rhetoric, the landmine campaign, the penalisation of the motorist, the abolition of private handguns, the banning of fox-hunting, a controlled vindictiveness against the rich, and the shooting of unconvicted Bosnian Serbs will fall short of being a policy; the ending of the windfall tax will make it necessary to take hard decisions about personal taxation; and Mr Brown's first budget will be remembered primarily for turning the pension funds into a political football.

The time will also come when Mr Blair's niceness, compassion and communitarianism will be seen, like socialism itself, to require an excessive degree of governmental supervision and taxation; his application of goodwill to intractable problems will be brought down to earth (as it already has been in Ulster); and his tendency to lecture world leaders about their duties will take off into a rhetorical stratosphere, like the rhetorical stratosphere into which MacDonald took off after 1931.

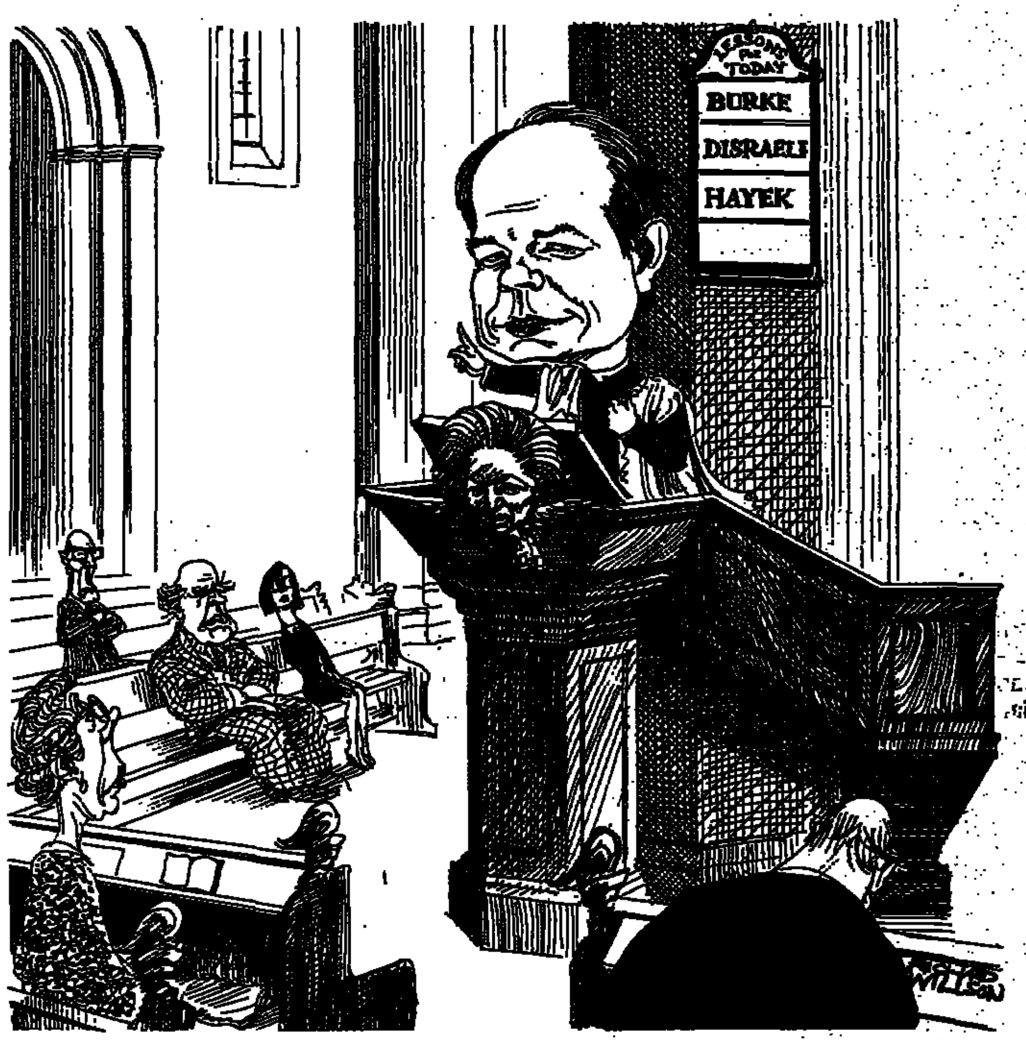
Even the identification of the Blairs with the Clintons has its downside from Mr Blair's point of view, since no one in England is suggesting that he should expose his dealings in Sedgefield to public inquiry, his fund-raising activities to a select committee of the House of Commons, or his private parts to examination by a panel of High Court judges.

Assuming that the Conservative Party *has* a future, it will have to reorganise itself in terms of age, class and opinion so as to remake itself what it was in the *1950s and 1960s, the mirror of* a very considerable part of the nation. It will have to acquire a new position in local government under whatever form local government is reconstructed, to make Conservative MEPs more representative of the opinions of the party at large, and to anticipate from the establishment of a Scottish parliament — already an object of apprehension in the Labour Party — an eventual reduction in the number of Scottish MPs at Westminster and the development of hostility to Labour's Tammany Hall machine in Scotland.

It will have to mount an effective opposition in Parliament and present itself through the media as a sane, informed and relevant critic of the Government's contradictions and failures, sometimes in directions which are not at present apparent. It will have to argue the case for a revising second chamber and to adopt a role as defender of the Constitution and the United Kingdom (with a special concern for English interests in case the Union turns out to be anachronistic). And it should commit itself, if the Queen and the Prince of Wales want this, to a morganatic marriage as the best way of lancing the boil created by Diana, Princess of Wales's determination to play a public role which there is no need for her to play. Above all, it should apply the Thatcherite revolution to the 1990s, moving on from the economic problem to even more systematic consideration than hitherto of relations between the State and private provision in health, pensions, insurance, transport and education.

The Tory challenge is to show why Blairite 'virtue' is a threat

The function of presenting the Conservative Party in Parliament and the media will require delicacy of language and manner, avoidance of fanaticism and imbecility, and a certain cunning in proposing as the judgments of commonsense contentions which will seem outrageous to *The Guardian* or *Channel Four News.* Nothing will be more problematical in the present climate than to go against the grain in this way; nothing is more necessary than to do this with a distinction, energy and intelligence so manifest that it cannot be dismissed as unreconstructed reaction.



This is not to suggest that the Conservative Party should become a mugwump party, as Lord Butler tried to make it in the 1950s. It is to suggest that it should avoid the unbearable moral certainty which was Mrs Thatcher's, as it is Mr Blair's, weakness, that it should support a cautious tolerance as against libertarian permissiveness, and that there should be a lightness of touch, even a degree of ridicule in exposing double standards.

In addition, there should be the most searching public scrutiny not only of the managers of the media, who have helped to bring down a Conservative government, but also of the pressure groups and consumer-defence organisations beloved of media editors, some of which are genuinely interested in defending the individual against big government and large-scale industrial or commercial institutions, but others of which merely use the individual as a way of weakening the authority of the police, the law, capitalism and a reasonable moral respectability.

Finally, there is the problem of the intellectual climate and the possibility of recreating a Conservative intellectuality like that which underpinned the Conservative Party between 1970 and 1990. A flourishing Conservative intellectuality originating in the universities and permeating outwards does not guarantee electoral victory, which is so much the result of contingent factors that it is possible for a party to succeed electorally when it is at a low ebb intellectually. But it is important to recognise that, in the Conservative Party, a well-constructed intellectuality can educate a cadre of intelligent and convinced politicians to man the party administration and the parliamentary party, and of intelligent journalists to make relevant and up-to-date adaptations of Conservative principle.

Recreation does not mean repetition. It would be as idle to apply the arguments of T.S. Eliot, Oakeshott, Butterfield and Hayek to the conditions of the late 1990s as it was idle of the Labour Left to apply the principles of its continental idols to the conditions of the 1980s. On the contrary, the challenge is a subtle and mainly negative challenge to expose the politics of "virtue" and to show why virtue, Blairite or otherwise, is a threat to freedom and needs to be taken with a very large pinch of salt. It is not socialism but the dismantling of "virtue" and exposure of the emptiness which lurks not very far below its surface that is the problem of the 1990s and the Conservative Party which is the best equipped to deal with it.

England certainly has a Conservative literature which is the equal of its Liberal and socialist literatures and in Salisbury, Mallock, Waugh and even, in his undemocratic way, Burke has an oeuvre of the very highest quality. But almost its leading feature is its dislike of the obsession with politics, its contempt for professional politicians, and its belief in the prior importance of almost *all aspects of the national life* over the political. It is an unavoidable fact that a Conservative intellectuality ought to be negative, sceptical and intolerant, especially of compassion and communitarianism, before it is positive.

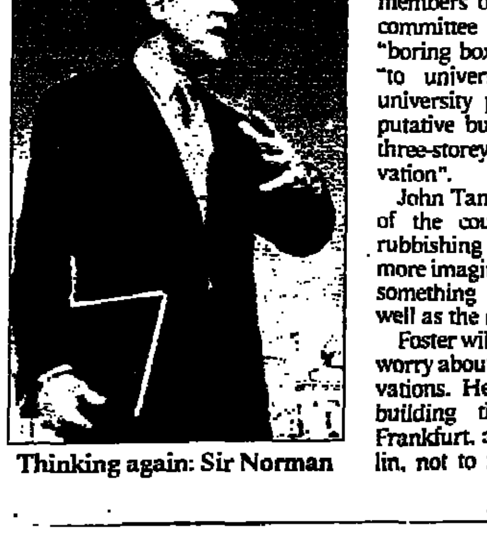
The Conservative Party is not a fanatical party. It is not even a party of the Right. It has an intellectual element, a commercial-industrial-City element, an aristocratic element which does not predominate, a reactionary element which is *fertile* and suggestive, and rural and suburban elements which supply its ballast. It believes in the primacy of the national interest in foreign policy, however variously and deviously the national interest is interpreted. It is an English party and may need to restore relations with Scotland and Wales on that basis as well as on the basis that it is primarily the party of the United Kingdom. It is not committed to moral crusades and it combines moral conservatism with grudging recognition of the diversity of moral standards.

It is the party of inequality, not necessarily of existing inequalities, but of the possibility of inequality; and it believes in both the duty of work and a social and moral decency which can incorporate citizens, whatever their class or ethnic origin. Most of all, it has a tone of voice and discourse which bypasses uplift and wishes to resist it whenever it comes its way. These are the things that it has to explain during the next five years. The question is whether the Shadow Cabinet and the parliamentary party are competent to explain them.

The historian Maurice Cowling, sometime Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, is at present working on the third volume of his Religion and Public Doctrine in Modern England. *The above are edited extracts from his pamphlet* A Conservative Future, *published next Wednesday by Politeia (28 Charing Cross Road, WC2H ODB) at £3. Simon Jenkins is away.*

No Norman

TOWN and gown are fighting again in Oxford, this time over plans by Sir Norman Foster to build a new university social studies faculty in the city. The *university loves Sir Norman's designs* for an ultra-modern glass and concrete oblong on Manor Road, behind the relatively modern St Cross building and St Catherine's College. The city council, however, says Sir Norman, the *world's most successful architect,* must think again.



Thinking again: Sir Norman

Ignoring the acclaim being accorded Sir Norman's new American Air Museum in Oxford, members of the council planning committee called his design a "boring box", saying it came close "to university vandalism". The university prefers to describe the putative building as a "very fine, three-storey, glass-walled elevation".

John Tanner, a Labour member of the council, seems to enjoy rubbishing Foster. "With a bit more imagination they could create something to relate to the old as well as the new," he says.

Foster will not have much time to worry about Citizen Tanner's reservations. He has ongoing projects building the Commerzbank at Frankfurt, and the Reichstag, Berlin, not to mention preparing for the Queen's visit to open his Duxford museum. "Planning approval has been deferred until a later date," says his office. "Sir Norman and all the architects working on the project are unfortunately away at the moment."

THE TIMES DIARY

Dino wars

WHILE strike action on the Hertfordshire set of his latest film, *Saving Private Ryan,* was finally averted on Thursday, Steven Spielberg faced fresh criticism from an academic quarter. Dr Richard Fortey, a leading palaeontologist, said at the launch of his book *Life: An Unauthorised Biography* at the Natural History Museum that he was he was downright fed-up with the movie director's manipulation of scientific fact to fit his reality.

Fortey, who tried in vain to extract dinosaur DNA from the body of an insect cocooned in amber, as scientists did in Spielberg's *Jurassic Park,* maintains that the director's dinosaur films "have no *bearing on reality". For one thing,* however, he was grateful: "Thanks to him, palaeontology has become glamorous."

● *Cave the bogus publicity on the back of* Figures in a Landscape *by Barry England, just reprinted in paperback by* Vintage. *In bold letters on the back, it says "Winner of the Booker Prize". Unfortunately, England's book was shortlisted for the Booker in 1969 but lost to P.H. Newby. The publishers promise to change the book sleeves asap.*

Reborn

WORK has started on a one-woman Broadway show based on the life of Pamela Harriman, America's former ambassador to France and squeeze of many of the century's great tycoons. David Permut, the producer, claims to have enlisted the co-operation of several of Harriman's intimates. "They're not co-operating for money or recognition," he says. "They just want the real Pamela to have her say on stage." Mrs Harriman, for all her success, never quite recovered from her reputation as an expert on rich men's ceilings.

Permut, whose latest film Face/Off earned more than $100 million, is looking for a writer before he starts casting his show. He does not see a problem finding a star: "Playing Harriman is a part every actress will want."

Keep moving, it's got to be a mirage

● *Evidence of the value attached to a portrait of the Prime Minister comes with the release on Thursday of the Scottish and the Welsh devolution White Papers. The 43-page Scottish paper costs £6.50, while the 80-page Welsh paper — printed in English and Welsh — costs only £3. The reason? The Scottish paper includes a colour photograph of Tony Blair and David Dewar; the Welsh paper does not.*

Cold comfort

LOCKER-ROOM battles are blighting Graham Gooch's farewell to Essex County Cricket Club this week. As he plays his final game, his team-mates are fighting over who will get to use his locker and bench space, both of which are felt to have talismanic powers.

The sacred patch has been used by Gooch almost since he arrived at the club. Things turned so nasty, among the players, however, that the groundsman had to intervene.

Sacred patch: Gooch

Rather than give Gooch's locker and space to any other player, it will be removed and a Graham Gooch memorial water cooler put there in its place.

● *Labour's troglodyte wing in Hammersmith have named an avenue after John Smith, the late Labour leader. John Smith Avenue SW6 forms part of the Clement Attlee estate, a group of dilapidated tower blocks.*

P·H·S

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VULTURES NOT HAWKS

Britain is booming: the Bank must not blow it

The announcement that the British economy has been growing at a slightly faster than expected pace would normally, one might think be greeted with a little enthusiasm. When that annualised rate of 3.4 per cent coincides with an underlying rate of inflation clearly beneath 3 per cent, unemployment falling below 6 per cent, and a benign balance of payments, there should surely be added volume to those cheers. A rational analysis might indicate that matters were proceeding rather nicely — albeit with some legitimate concerns about the value of sterling. Instead the data has been miserably received: we are all, it seems, having too much of a good thing.

The conventional wisdom of many influential policymakers — especially those at the Bank of England — is that growth which exceeds past historical trends will bring inflation as surely as night follows day. Figures for domestic demand and retail sales released in the last few days will doubtless reinforce their convictions.

As a consequence, such self-styled inflation "hawks" argue, interest rates should be increased when the Monetary Policy Committee meets next on August 7. Furthermore, rates should rise again soon after. That has been their view for at least twelve months now. It has already ensured three rapid rate increases. Actual evidence of imminent inflationary dangers has remained almost invisible. But this is apparently of little importance. Inflation could happen, indeed should have occurred already; so there must be a swift strike on the cost of borrowing.

While, however, the threat of inflation remains distinctly theoretical the impact of an appreciating currency is already tangible. Sterling hit an eight-year high this week. It is not inconceivable that having passed the 2.95DM figure that represented its old benchmark within the ERM, it might now exceed the 3.13DM margin which represented its maximum permissible level under those arrangements. Any further increase in interest rates makes that moment even more plausible.

Yesterday the GDP figures demonstrated the impact of that pumped-up pound. While the service sector clattered along at a 4.5 per cent growth rate, manufacturing industry remained at a standstill. A CBI survey showed that manufacturing export orders over the past four months fell at the fastest rate in over five years. Manufacturing optimism about export prospects has slumped to its lowest point in nearly seventeen years. Britain has two economies at present — one of which is not far short of recession. That will not stop the inflation hawks from seeking further interest rate punishment.

The contrast between the British and American monetary authorities is striking. Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, testified before the US Congress on Tuesday. The economy over which he presides will grow at a similar rate to Britain in 1997. Inflation is in an equally subdued condition. Unemployment is even lower. Mr Greenspan spoke of the "extraordinarily positive" situation that confronted him. He expressed confidence that labour market reforms and the effect of new technology allowed for enhanced growth without inflation. He has increased interest rates by precisely 0.25 per cent over the last two years. He appears in no hurry to go further.

Eddie George is not minded to follow Mr Greenspan. He has little faith that supply-side reforms have improved Britain's economic potential. If interest rates keep rising — sweeping sterling up with them — then services as well as manufacturing will soon start feeling the pressure. Yet movements in inflation remain tiny. The Governor and his associates may pride themselves on their hawkishness. For much of British industry they are behaving like vultures.

OXBRIDGE AND DEARING

Oxford and Cambridge face major changes ahead

It consisted of 34 words in a 1,700-page report but Sir Ron Dearing's reflections on the current funding arrangements for Oxford and Cambridge have already brought sharp words from the ancient universities. Sir Ron drily noted that the college fees received by Oxbridge — some £35 million in total — constituted a "substantial addition to the standard funding for institutions of higher education". He recommended that the Government review these arrangements. Such a suggestion, coming after David Blunkett had already cut the increase in college fees for the coming years, has convinced many in the quadrangles that the barbarians are at the gate.

Sir Ron has identified a legitimate policy problem. His report boldly promotes the principle that those who receive the most direct financial benefit from higher education — graduates — should share in some of the considerable costs involved in its provision. With the exception of Opposition spokesman Stephen Dorrell and a few MPs associated with the Labour Left, that assertion appears to have commanded wide respect. Oxbridge students dominate many of the most lucrative posts in Britain. For this narrow set to receive an additional subsidy from the taxpayer to maintain the tutorial system appears incompatible with the Dearing diagnosis.

Other aspects of Sir Ron's report suggest a certain caution, however. The document rightly places its emphasis on the importance of internationally respected universities and excellence in teaching. It implies that the recent expansion in student numbers threatens those standards. The decline of Oxbridge colleges and the abandonment of tutorials in favour of the factory farming methods now used at some educational establishments could hardly be consistent with Sir Ron's strictures either. That point will be hammered home by college heads during the promised consultation exercise.

Mr Blunkett may conclude that the ideal outcome would be for Oxbridge to retain its historic features but for someone else to finance them. The populist place to start would be with the substantial endowment wealth enjoyed by certain colleges. There are limits, however, on how far the two universities could become self-funding through this means alone. A large proportion of collegiate assets consists of land and works of art that are extremely difficult to sell not least because of the rules enforced by the Department of the Environment and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

Instead the Government should allow Oxbridge to levy "top-up" fees as part of its fiscal package. If this is not done overtly it will occur covertly anyway. Colleges will dramatically increase the termly charges for board and food and students will find themselves seeking additional loans. Furthermore, many colleges will seek additional numbers of overseas students for extra tuition fees. That will mean fewer places for home students.

The open adoption of top-up fees would be more equitable and efficient. In combination with an appeal on behalf of the collegiate principle and some asset liquidation, Oxbridge should survive the withdrawal of current support. In the medium term, however, both universities will need to contemplate whether their aspiration to compete at a global level with the Harvards and Yales can be achieved without an outright shift towards private resources.

AN EXPERT WRITES...

Jeeves speaks up in defence of an endangered profession

This is the week of the butler. And the publicity forces me to break the habit of a lifetime. Only once before in my connection with Mr Wooster have I taken centre stage to speak in public about one of his trifling misadventures. But the law reports of butlers taking over their employers' houses while they are away and humiliating them at home oblige me to set down some principles.

For the faults lie on both sides. Some unsatisfactory recruits with no traditions of service are being employed as butlers. And some employers have no notion of the intimate but formal relationship that should exist between a gentleman and his butler.

Dignity and discretion are the key values. My uncle, Charlie Silversmith, taught them to me when he dandled me on his knee. And he was their embodiment. It could have been said of him as it was in Joseph Conrad's *Lord Jim*: "Had you been the Emperor of the East and West you could not have ignored your inferiority in his presence."

Uncle Charlie would have agreed that Percival Hole acted prudently to change his Christian name to John when he became a butler. Some names are unsuitable for a domestic servant. For instance, Bertram Wilberforce simply would not *do*. I have never revealed my first name, not even in the Ganymede Club member's book. The information is irrelevant.

Then, as to the matter of a butler serving his employers' wine to chance acquaintances picked up in a public house, there has always been a tacit understanding about a butler's *droit du maître* over half empty port decanters and bin ends. But Mr Hole should have selected an older vintage than Château Pétrus, and it was vulgar to boast that it cost £1,500 a bottle. The code of the butlers states that such things are never discussed, especially not on page 3 of *The Times*.

The other peccant butler on trial stroked his employer's breasts in the bath and said: "These milk bottles, madam, used to be full. Now they are empty." A butler should never become so familiar, and he should keep his relations with the opposite sex behind the green baize door. In my opinion the rot was started by a romantic novel called *The Remains of the Day*. In the motion picture made from it, Mr Anthony Hopkins played the butler, Stevens, far too emotionally.

For butlers are the secret authority behind the desks of power. Michael Harden, the former royal butler, who is leading the move to take over the Nationwide Building Society, does not grasp the discretion of his profession. A butler's place is to shimmer in the background not shine on the front pages. Had there been a butler in the Garden of Eden, there would have been no Fall. If Adam got so far as to raise the forbidden fruit to his mouth, the action would have been halted by a voice, bleating across Eden like a distant sheep: "Injudicious, sir, if I may be permitted to say so." For it is only by knowing their place that butlers can keep it, at the top of the tree and out of the spotlight.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN **Telephone 0171-782 5000**

Charges of 'conspiracy' and 'betrayal' on Hong Kong

From Mr Jonathan Dimbleby

Sir, It is a convenient fiction for Sir Percy Cradock ("A question of honour", July 23) to presume that in my book, *The Last Governor*, I serve as Chris Patten's "hatchet-man". Has it not crossed Sir Percy's mind that there are other ways of interpreting the recent history of Hong Kong than through the prism of his own prejudices?

It must be galling for him that Hong Kong remains, for the moment, flourishing, open and self-confident — despite Patten's failure to heed his advice that the only realistic option for Britain was to retreat to China's bottom line on almost every issue of substance.

In retrospect, does not his oft-repeated claim that Patten's approach was "fatal, fatal, fatal" seem a trifle hyperbolic? Does it not now seem a touch perverse to argue that Hong Kong would now be stronger if Patten had been weaker?

Cradock alleges that I make the "grubby" suggestion in my book that his hostility to Patten sprang from his own financial interests in China. I make no such imputation. On the contrary I merely note that his usefulness to those by whom he was hired soon after his retirement presumably lay in the fact that (by his own account) he was the principal architect and agent of British policy towards China during the years which are now so keenly — and in his case, intemperately — disputed.

No dishonour in that. The questions of honour lie elsewhere, and I explore them at length in *The Last Governor*.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN DIMBLEBY,
Upper Langridge Farm,
Lansdown, Bath, Somerset.
July 24.

From Mr N. J. Cooper

Sir, Accusations about people's motives have obscured the more important hard facts about events in Hong Kong.

The Basic Law allowed for 20 directly elected LegCo seats at the time of handover, plus ten elected by a representative committee and 30 functional seats (ie, elected by the major corporations). Directly elected seats would increase to 24 in two years and 30 in six years, with the ultimate aim of "the election of all the members ... by universal suffrage".

Governor Patten chose to "interpret" this as enfranchising all employees of the major corporations, thus changing functional votes into direct votes.

Much has been made of the Governor's ignorance of a letter promising continued consultation with the Chinese. But the Joint Declaration, of which he was presumably not ignorant, spells out that agreed intention in Annexe II "to ensure a smooth transfer".

Thus, sadly, the facts of the Governor's actions in contravention of the spirit and intention of agreements outraged both moderates and hardliners in China and diminished whatever moral high ground remained to us.

Yours truly,
N. J. COOPER
(Chairman),
The Top Management
Partnership Ltd,
PO Box 10420, London W8 6GL.
July 23.

From Mr George Rosenberg

Sir, Sir Robin McLaren, British Ambassador in China, 1991-94 (letter, July 16), was deeply involved in all the critical events surrounding the handover of Hong Kong. It is not surprising, therefore, that he should object so strongly to "allegations of betrayal and Foreign Office conspiracies".

However, the need for a public inquiry will not readily go away. Even if every other Foreign Office action is beyond reproach, there is one action (perhaps an omission) which more than justifies Simon Jenkins's call for an inquiry (article, July 12).

It is generally accepted that in October 1992, when Chris Patten made his proposals for democratic reform and went to Beijing, he had not been briefed on the more limited agreement reached more than two years earlier in an exchange of correspondence between Britain and China.

As a senior civil servant in Hong Kong's Legal Department at the time of Patten's visit I had initially written off the Chinese attack on him as bluster. However, when I eventually read the correspondence, I could not avoid the conclusion that Britain had deliberately broken the 1990 agreement, and I could not credit that the Foreign Office had not given Patten this crucial information.

If the Foreign Office had briefed Patten properly, I have no doubt that he would have framed his proposals so that they did not run the risk of being regarded as a breach of the agreement. The people of this country and of Hong Kong deserve to know what led to this extraordinary blunder (or, as Sir Percy Cradock puts it in his article, this "odd story").

If information was deliberately withheld from the person who most needed to know it, it was sabotage and the perpetrators should be exposed and punished. If it was negligence, it was negligence of the highest order and those responsible should be called upon to apologise to Patten and the people of Hong Kong.

The truth can only be established by a full inquiry.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE ROSENBERG
(Deputy Crown Solicitor,
Hong Kong, 1991-94),
Fox Lodge,
Searles, Fletching, East Sussex.
georger@ndirect.co.uk
July 24.

From Mr Robin Fairlie

Sir, There is clearly room, even among democrats, for more than one view of British policy towards Hong Kong and China both before and after 1992. Nor are the counter-factual hypotheses of politicians, diplomats or historians on what would have happened if ... likely to result in much further enlightenment.

But even a non-expert in Far Eastern affairs may be allowed to feel distaste for the spectacle of an ex-ambassador publicly expressing his disapproval — indeed contempt — for the policies of a British Governor in office.

Retired ambassadors (like retired politicians) should remove themselves from the public stage, where their continued presence is a public embarrassment.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN FAIRLIE,
1 Broadlands Road, N6.
July 23.

High legal fees

From Mr Richard Pearce

Sir, Tim O'Flynn (letter, July 17; see also letters, July 22) writes eloquently of the differential incomes of barrister and social worker, while the Chairman of the Bar Council, in his letter on the same day, describes commercial litigation fees as "negotiated ... in a free market".

Since the free market shows that both professions are adequately filled, it would seem that both are satisfied by different rewards, the social workers seeking to do good and the lawyers seeking to do well.

To reaffirm the fairness of the law, would it not be possible to require litigants to set their own maximum costs initially, pay a bond into the court, and share that sum equally between the two sides to ensure parity of representation? Neither side would be permitted to spend more than 50 per cent of the total contribution and legal aid would continue to ensure assistance for the less well-to-do.

Members of the legal profession will presumably protest that this would unfairly restrict their income. Such protests should be viewed in the light of the potential increase in the volume of their business and the emancipation that such a change would bring to those at present denied access to the law.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PEARCE,
72 Lissenden Mansions,
Lissenden Gardens, NW5.
July 18.

From Mrs Elizabeth Gaskell Syms

Sir, The debate over whether lawyers' "fat cat" salaries or court fees deter individuals and small business from using the courts could be clarified if companies and profitable organisations were recognised as having different budgets and rights of access by the courts. Why do citizens pay the *same* court fees as the organisations that pay substantial fees to the legal professions?

A fairer solution might be for commercial organisations to pay court fees on a pro-rata basis; after an initial down payment their court fees could be calculated as a percentage of the total legal fees they pay for a case.

Yours faithfully,
E. N. GASKELL SYMS,
86 Victoria Road,
Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Radio 3 changes

From Mr William Hale

Sir, Richard Morrison reports that, as part of its effort to attract a younger audience to Radio 3, BBC mandarins are considering employing Barry Humphries and Prunella Scales as presenters (Arts, July 19; letters, July 24). Exactly what definition of the word "young" is currently in use at John Birt's BBC?

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM HALE,
Hardy Farm, Hardy Lane,
Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.
July 21.

'War' on tobacco

From Dr B. S. Smith

Sir, How are we to improve the health of the lower paid (report, "Poverty deprives 2.5m children of meals, toys and trips", July 22)? Certainly an increase in income tax to go directly to relieving poverty or spending more money on the National Health Service would, in my view, have a negligible effect: "meals, toys and trips" are likely to be more important to the lower paid.

After 25 years running a diabetic clinic for 2,000 patients in the most deprived area in the West Midlands, where detailed inquiry regarding food, alcohol and tobacco consumption is made, I have more than a passing acquaintance with likely relevant factors. I have serious doubts whether lack of income is the most important.

Choice of diet is by and large poor. Intake of fruit and vegetables, whose importance in healthy lung function and longevity is highlighted by Dr Thomas Stuttaford (Medical briefing, July 22), is low. In my experience white bread, biscuits, crisps, chips and abundant meat products rule.

Tobacco consumption is highest in the lowest income groups. A study by London Economics two years ago (report, July 21, 1995) noted that overall the poorest 10 per cent of British households spent 11 per cent of income on tobacco tax: in smoking households it was 27 per cent. There have been three above-inflation Budget rises since then.

Tobacco is addictive and is often the daily purchase with the highest priority. A husband and wife jointly consuming 30 cigarettes daily, at approximately 15p per cigarette, will not afford the Health Education Authority's advocated five items of fruit or vegetables daily per family member — also costing some 15p per item.

Tobacco is the curse of the working classes, and even more dire for the unemployed or unemployable. It wrecks health directly and indirectly. Waging war on tobacco, as this Government has promised to do, must be top of the health agenda: diet comes second.

Yours faithfully,
B. S. SMITH
(Consultant physician),
Sandwell General Hospital,
Lyndon,
West Bromwich, West Midlands.
July 23.

As old as you feel

From Dr Ian L. Natoff

Sir, Middle-age is a state of mind which has passed before one realises that it has existed (letters, July 12, 18, 21).

I had my exhaust repaired at a nearby centre and was asked to wait until a ramp was available. I sat, inadvertently, out of sight of the manager's desk behind a coffee-vending machine. As one job was completed, I heard the manager call out to the mechanic: "Right, where's that old bloke?" I craned my neck to join them in their search until I realised it was me they were looking for.

I was only 62, and even now, two years on, I wonder what I shall be when I grow up.

Yours faithfully,
IAN L. NATOFF,
48 Goodyers Avenue,
Radlett, Hertfordshire.
natoffamily@compuserve.com

From Mr D. C. Burrows

Sir, Another sign of middle-age: questions begin with the words "Are you still ...?"

Yours faithfully,
D. C. BURROWS,
Banks Farm House,
Burton Overy, Leicestershire.

Cricketing Smiths

From Mr Murray Hedgcock

Sir, P. G. Wodehouse references are always right and proper in cricket, given the Master's long love affair with the game (he played at Lord's six times for The Authors): the assertion today however ("Smith on a loser in name game", Sport) that one of PGW's characters, "Mike Smith", jazzed up his name by adding a "P" in front of his surname, is a telescoping of two Wodehouse characters.

Our hero was actually Rupert (or Ronald — PGW himself vacillates) Eustace Smith, later Psmith; his great friend was peerless cricketer Mike Jackson. Their exploits are recounted in *Mike and Psmith* (1953); Psmith was in line for a place in the Eton XI until removed from that school by an unhelpful father.

Yours etc,
MURRAY HEDGCOCK
(Editor, *Wodehouse at the Wicket*,
Hutchinson, 1997),
14 Clifford Avenue, SW14.
murrayh@lineone.net
July 25.

From Mr Richard Penney

Sir, In his suggestion that Test cricketing Smiths have for the most part been nonentities, Simon Wilde failed to mention the best known of them all — Sir C. Aubrey "Round the Corner" Smith.

Having achieved his boyhood ambition by captaining a winning English team in his first Test match (against South Africa in 1889, taking five for 19 in the first innings), Smith promptly retired to Hollywood via the West End stage and became the scourge of all kinds of screen infidels and other bad hats for the next 50 years. Some nonentity!

Yours faithfully
RICHARD PENNEY,
Barrington Cottage,
Longborough, Gloucestershire.
penney@cix.compulink.co.uk

Weekend Money letters, page 39

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Challenge to the Tate's 'monopoly'

From Mr John Drewe

Sir, Nicholas Serota, Director of the Tate Gallery, justifies London's need for a museum of modern art ("We will like to be inside the Bankside", July 19). Your third leader (July 21) argued the case further.

In 1961 Sir Herbert Read proposed that such a museum should be set up in London, fully independent of any existing institution. An organisation, Art Foundation, was formed with this objective, sponsored by British artists including Lynn Chadwick, Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore, Ben Nicholson, William Scott and Graham Sutherland.

A site was found in 1964 and a leasehold agreement was being drawn up when Roland Penrose, who was both a trustee of the Tate and a sponsor of Art Foundation, withdrew his support on the ground that most of the Tate trustees believed that the museum would compete with it for funds. This objection was pivotal in the decision to abandon the project.

Your leader pointed out that the Tate has evolved considerably beyond a national museum of British art. However, it is debatable whether one management should simultaneously control the exhibition policy of a new museum as well as the Tate at London, Liverpool and St Ives, Cornwall.

Perhaps an independent museum, to some extent in competition with the Tate, would stand more chance of being innovative and stimulating than expanding an established monolith which now celebrates its status as an antique.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DREWE,
Greenmantle,
Washington Close, Reigate, Surrey.
July 23.

From Mr Richard Goude

Sir, Nicholas Serota naturally made no mention of the incongruity of displaying the collection in a building which, whatever its merits, was designed for a completely different purpose.

What would Wren and Hawksmoor have thought of our feeble attitude towards building for the future of London?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD GOUDE,
24 Rowsley Road,
Eastbourne, Sussex.

In praise of 'fat cats'

From Mr George Racz

Sir, The anniversary of the Tate and your welcome revelation that Paul Hamlyn has given £17 million to the South Bank Centre (report, July 19) are useful reminders that the "fat cats", the entrepreneurs and tycoons, far from being selfish and despicable, create lasting monuments for the benefit of the country.

Punitive taxation can reduce the wealthy to poverty but will not make the poor rich. The Government must allow the rich to accumulate more wealth because they create opportunities for others to contribute to the wealth of the nation.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE RACZ,
7 Wellington House,
Eton Road, NW3.

Shula's regrets

From the Editor of The Archers

Sir, Roger Ede, Secretary of the Law Society's Criminal Law Committee, discusses ("Soap justice just won't wash", Law, July 22) Simon Pemberton's non-custodial sentence, recently featured in *The Archers* on Radio 4. He suggests that the effect of the storyline will be to deter victims from reporting incidents of domestic violence.

Our opinion is the opposite. At his hearing Pemberton claimed that the attack on Debbie Aldridge was isolated and out of character. The assault on Shula Hebden would have disproved that, but it was by then 12 months old. The CPS advised us that after such a delay, with no witnesses and no medical evidence, a prosecution was most unlikely.

Surely the listener shares Shula's regrets. If she had reported the original assault when it occurred, then Debbie's ordeal would never have taken place. That is the message behind this story.

Yours etc,
VANESSA WHITBURN,
Editor, *The Archers*,
BBC Pebble Mill, Birmingham 5.
July 24.

Floral disarray

From Mr David Ackerman

Sir, Church flower-arrangers will know all about Oasis (the green substance which supports stems, as opposed to the band) and its role in the drama of ecclesiastical floral life (letters, July 19, 22).

It is perhaps shocking, although understandable to those whose life is spent in the vicinity of flower-arrangers, that a sign in my local church's sacristy states:

> Flower ladies: placing Oasis in this sink will result in death. Thank you so much.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ACKERMAN,
322 Woodstock Road, Oxford.
July 23.

هكذا صدر الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 25: The Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of The Queen and presented an Address from the House of Lords to which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning unveiled a Memorial to Sir Francis Chichester at the West Hoe Pier, Plymouth, to commemorate the completion of his solo circumnavigation of the World in 1967, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Devon (Lieutenant-Colonel the Earl of Morley).

His Royal Highness, Admiral of the Fleet, later visited *HMS Raleigh*, Torpoint, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cornwall (the Lady Mary Holborow).

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended the Flying Fifteen Association Reception at the Commodore's House, Cowes, and, as a Member, later attended the Household Division Yacht Club Dinner at the Royal Yacht Squadron, the Castle, Cowes.

His Royal Highness was received on arrival in Cowes by Her Majesty's Governor and Lord-Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight (Mr Christopher Bland).

The Lord Haskel (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Departure of The Amir of the State of Qatar and bade farewell to His Highness on behalf of The Queen.

July 25: The Duke of York this morning presented the inaugural Colours to The London Regiment at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London SW3.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 25: The Princess Royal today opened the Country Landowners Association's Game Fair at Castle Ashby and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire (Sir John Lowther).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 25: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Air Corps, this morning received Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Parish upon assuming the appointment of Commanding Officer of 4 Regiment.

His Royal Highness afterwards presented the Colonel-in-Chief's Trophy to the 1997 winner, Warrant Officer 2 Ian Jellicoe.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE:
July 25: Princess Alexandra, President of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy this afternoon attended the Charity Race Day at Ascot Racecourse, Royal County of Berkshire.

Royal engagements

TODAY:

The Duke of Edinburgh will watch Race 2 of the Flying Fifteen World Championships off Cowes, Isle of Wight at 11.00.

The Prince of Wales will visit Caldey Island, Pembrokeshire, at 11.10; as vice-president, National Trust, will vist Dinefwr Park, Llandeilo, Dyfed, at 12.55; as Patron, the Abbeyfield Society, will visit the Abbeyfield House, George Street, at 2.00; will attend a garden party at Stradey Castle, Llanelli, for couples celebrating their golden wedding anniversary, at 3.00; will visit *HM Bark Endeavour* at Fishguard Ferry Terminal, at 6.20; and as Patron, BBC National Orchestra of Wals, will attend a concert at Fishguard High School at 7.00.

TOMORROW:

The Prince of Wales will visit the Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Powys, at 10.45; and as Chancellor of the University of Wales, will vist Gregynog Hall, near Newtown, at 12.20.

Prince Edward, as Patron, the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, will attend the Camerata Scotland-Camerata Australia Concert at the Barbican Centre at 7.20.

The Duke of Kent, as President-in-Chief, the British Racing Drivers' Club, will attend the Historic Festival, at Silverstone Circuit, Northamptonshire, at noon.

Girdlers' Company

The following have been elected offices of the Girdlers' Company for the ensuing year:

Master, Mr D.R.L. James; Upper Warden, Mr A.R. Westall; Middle Warden, Mr S.V. Straker; Renter Warden, Mr J.M. Westall.

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Sir Peter Carey, former Permanent Secretary, DTI, 74; the Very Rev Wesley Carr, Dean of Westminster, 56; Mrs Pauline Clare, Chief Constable of Lancashire, 50; Mr Blake Edwards, film director and producer, 75; Sir Peter Hall, diplomat, 59; Mr J.W. Howard, Prime Minister of Australia, 58; Mr Mick Jagger, Rolling Stones singer, 54; Miss Barbara Jefford, actress, 67; Dr John Kilgour, former director of prison medical services, Home Office, 73; Mr Stanley Kubrick, film producer and director, 69; Professor James Lovelock, scientist, 78; Dr Brian Mawhinney, MP, 57; Miss Helen Mirren, actress, 52; Baroness Oppenheim-Barnes, 67; Mr Lance Percival, actor and singer, 64; Professor Sir Keith Peters, FRS, physician, 59; Sir Frank Price, former chairman, British Waterways Board, 75; Sir Derek Riches, diplomat, 85; Mr A.M.F. (Sandy) Ross, former managing director, Mary Quant, 66; Mr Kenneth Snowman, antiquarian, 78; Mr M.H.W. Wells, former chairman, Charterhouse Japhet, 70; Dr Anne Wright, Vice-Chancellor, Sunderland University, 51.

TOMORROW: Mr Michael Ball, singer, 35; Mr Allan Border, cricketer, 42; Lord Cawley, 84; Mr Peter Coker, artist, 71; Mr Christopher Dean, ice skater, 39; Sir Ronald Dearing, former chairman, Post Office Corporation, 67; Miss Jo Durie, tennis player, 37; Dame Mary Green, former Head Mistress, Kidbrooke School, 84; Mr Jack Higgins, novelist, 68; Lord Jenkins of Putney, 89; Professor J.O'D. McGee, pathologist, 58; Sir James Munn, former chairman, Training Commission, 77; Mr David Potter, group chief executive, Guinness Mahon Holdings, 53; Baroness Williams of Crosby, 67.

Luncheons

Corporation of London

To mark the visit by the Amir of the State of Qatar, the Corporation of London gave a luncheon in his honour yesterday at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor received the guests who included:

Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani (Finance, Economy and Trade Minister), Shaikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al-Thani (Foreign Minister), Abdulla bin Khalifa Al-Attiya (President of Diwan Amiri), Dr Mohamed Abdulraheem Kafoud (Minister of Education), Shaikh Mohamed bin Fahad Al-Thani (Director of Amiri Protocol), Shaikh Hamad bin Thamer Al-Thani (Ambassador of the State of Qatar), Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Saoud Al-Thani (Director of the Political Department, Diwan Amiri), Shaikh Sultan bin Jassim Al-Thani (Assistant Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Trade), Mr Mohamed Jeham Al-Kawari (Director of the European and American Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mr Fawas Al-Attiya (Official Spokesman, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the Ambassador of Egypt, the Ambassador of the Lebanon, the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, the Ambassador of Kuwait, the Ambassador of Oman, the Ambassador of Bahrain, Lord Denman, General Sir Peter de la Billière, Sir John Hanson, Dame Pauline Neville-Jones, Sir Colin Chandler, Sir Richard Evans, Mr John Shepherd, Mr Philip Astley, representatives of the Qatar Embassy, Aldermen, representatives of the City Lands and Bridge House Estates Committee and Officers of the Corporation of London

ANDRÉ CAMARA

The Duke of York carrying out an inspection at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London, yesterday after presenting inaugural Colours to the London Regiment, created in 1993 in a merger of four infantry regiments

Service dinners

Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment

The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment held a dinner with the 1st Battalion last night at Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth. Brigadier J.P. Weller, Colonel of the Regiment, presided. Officers of the Regiment and those who had served in The Worcestershire Regiment and The Sherwood Foresters and their ladies were present.

Royal Regiment of Wales

The Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan and the Lord Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan attended a dinner given by the Officers' Mess of the 3rd (Cadet) Battalion Royal Regiment of Wales (previously Counties of Glamorgan ACF) last night at Longmoor to mark the battalion's annual summer camp. Colonel J. Wrangham was the host.

Appointment

Mr John Nutting, QC, to be a member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct.

Weekend anniversaries

TODAY

BIRTHS: Winthrop Mackworth Praed, poet and politician, London, 1802; George Bernard Shaw, dramatist, Dublin, 1856; Serge Koussevitsky, conductor, Tver, Russia, 1874; Carl Gustav Jung, psychologist, Kesswyl, Germany, 1875; André Maurois, novelist and biographer, Elbeuf, France, 1885; Aldous Huxley, novelist, Godalming, Surrey, 1894; Robert Graves, poet and novelist, London, 1895; Paul Gallico, novelist, New York, 1897; Salvador Allende, President of Chile 1970-73, Valparaiso, 1908.

DEATHS: John Wilmot, 2nd Earl of Rochester, poet and courtier, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, 1680; John Friend, physician and politician, London, 1728; Samuel Houston, 1st President of the Republic of Texas 1836-8 and 1841-4, Huntsville, Texas, 1863; George Borrow, writer, Oulton, Suffolk, 1881; Sir James Murray, philologist, Oxford, 1915; William Jennings Bryan, political orator, Dayton, Tennessee, 1925; Benjamin Whorf, anthropologist, Wetherfield, Connecticut, 1941; George Gallup, pioneer of public opinion polls, Switzerland, 1984.

New York became the 11th state of the union, 1788.

After a Labour landslide in the general election, Clement Attlee became Prime Minister, 1945.

TOMORROW

BIRTHS: Jean Bernoulli, mathematician, Basel, 1667; Charlotte Corday, assassin of Jean-Paul Marat, St Saturnin, France, 1768; Thomas Campbell, poet, Glasgow, 1777; Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer Royal 1836-92, Alnwick, Northumberland, 1801; Alexandre Dumas *fils*, dramatist, Paris, 1824; Enrique Granados, composer, Lérida, Spain, 1868; Hilaire Belloc, writer, La Celle, St Cloud, France, 1870; Giosuè Carducci, poet, Nobel laureate 1906, Valdicastello, Italy, 1835.

DEATHS: Henri de la Tour d'Auvergne, Vicomte de Turenne, Marshal of France, Sassbach, 1675; Mikhail Lermontov, poet, killed in a duel, Pyatigorsk, Russia, 1841; John Dalton, chemist, Manchester, 1844; Ferrucio Busoni, pianist and composer, Berlin, 1924; Louis-Hubert Lyautey, Marshal of France, Thorey, 1934; Gertrude Stein, writer, Paris, 1946; Richard Aldington, novelist and biographer, Maison Sallé, France, 1962; Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, Prime Minister of Portugal 1932-68, Lisbon, 1970; Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran 1941-79, Cairo, 1980; James Mason, film actor, Switzerland, 1984; Sir Osbert Lancaster, writer, London, 1986.

The Bank of England was granted a charter by an Act of Parliament, 1694.

Insulin was isolated at Toronto University by Sir Frederick Banting and Charles Best, 1921.

The Korean armistice was signed in Panmunjom, ending three years of war, 1953.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G. Acheson
and Miss C. Cole.
The engagement is announced between Gary, son of the late Mr George Acheson and of Mrs Hazel Acheson, of Armagh, Northern Ireland, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Chris Cole, of Edwalton, Nottingham.

Mr P.M.H. Andreae
and Mrs A.N. Baird
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of the late Mr and Mrs H.K. Andreae, and Rosemary, widow of Commander Andrew Baird, OBE, Royal Navy.

Mr J.T. Armstrong
and Miss S.A. Brackenbury
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Armstrong, of Goring-on-Thames, South Oxfordshire, and Sandy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Brackenbury, of Grimsby, North Yorkshire.

Mr W.P. Berriss
and Miss E.H. Sims
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Berris, of Bray, Berkshire, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Sims, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

Mr M.R.J. Craddock
and Miss P.R. Smith
The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Martin Craddock, of Hurst, Berkshire, and Peronel, daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Smith, of Frimley, Surrey.

Mr C. Ross
and Miss K.M. Toms
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs William Ross, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, and Katherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Toms, of Copthorne, West Sussex.

Mr D.J. Servini
and Miss S.J. Andrew
The engagement is announced between Dominic Jon, son of Mrs C. Servini, of Cockfosters, Hertfordshire, and Sarah Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.St.J. Andrew, of Kirkmichael, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

Mr J.D. Spence
and Miss A.C.R. Smith
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mrs Sally Spence, of London and the late Mr James Spence, and Arabella, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Smith, of Wadhurst, Sussex.

Mr N.S. Kerr
and Miss R.S. Hayman
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Stuart, son of the late S.C. Kerr and of Mrs Kerr, of Adelaide, and Rosemary Susan, elder daughter of Brigadier and Mrs I.H. Hayman, of Sydney.

Dr M.A.J. Timms
and Dr C.M.J. Smith
The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Timms, of Heswall, Wirral, and Celia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Smith, of Laddingford, Kent.

Dr M.G. Williamson
and the Rev R.H. Watts
The engagement is announced between Magnus, only son of Mr and Mrs John Anthony Williamson, of Mears Ashby, Northamptonshire, and Rebecca Harriet, younger daughter of the late Mr Geoffrey Watts and the late Mrs Phyllis Watts, and step-daughter of Mrs Mary Watts, of Stroat, Gloucestershire.

Marriages

Mr T.G. Bartleet
and Miss R.F. Bone
The marriage took place on Saturday, July 19, at the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Twickenham, of Mr Grahame Bartleet, son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Bartleet, of Goodameavy, Devon, to Miss Rebecca Bone, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.T.G. Bone, of Twickenham. The Rev Alun Glyn-Jones officiated assisted by the Right Rev John Bone.

The bride who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Ben Geering, Alasdair Holtby and Mrs Jane Geering. Mr Michael Greenwood was best man.

Mr C.M.G. Drummond
and M C.N.A. Meulemans
The marriage took place on Saturday, July 19, in Beaulieu Sur Mer, France, of Mr Charles Drummond, younger son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Mortimer Drummond, of Hill Head, Hampshire, to M Caroline Meulemans, youngest daughter of the late Professor Meulemans and of Mme Lucienne Wauters, of Beaulieu Sur Mer.

Mr C. Hargrave
and Miss J. Mason
The marriage took place on Friday, July 25, at St Mary's Church, Chislehurst, Kent, between Mr Clive Hargrave and Miss Jean Mason.

Church services tomorrow

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch; 6.30 EP.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 M, Incline thine ear (Himmel), Rev B Livingston; 3.15 E.

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Darke in E, Ubi caritas (Duruflé); 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Rose), Stanford in C.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Ch Euch; 4 Ch E.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 M; 10.30 Euch, God so loved the world (Stainer), Canon Galliee; 4 Ch E, For the beauty of the earth (Rutter), Canon Hindley.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Annual Reunion Service, A song of peace (Stanford), Canon A Pierce; 3.30 E, All things bright and beautiful (Rutter).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Ave maris Stella (Grieg), Mass of the Holy Trinity (Walsh), The Dean; 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Neary), O nata lux (Tallis), Canon P Johnson.

CADEIRLAN BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Mass in G (Schubert), Ave verum (Byrd); 3.15 Ch E, Evening Service in D minor (Walmisley).

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Ave verum (Hendrie), Ridout in F, Rev R Symon; 3.15 E, Responses (Leighton-Jones), Moore in G, Rev D Cosins; 6.30 Compline.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Thee we adore (Mawby), Canon D Weston; 3 E, Let thy merciful ears O Lord (Mudd), Responses (Sanders).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch, Sumsion in F, God which prepared (Mudd), The Vice Provost; 6 Ch E, Responses (Ayleward), Exultate Deo (Scarlatti).

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Holy is the true light (W H Harris), The Dean; 11.30 Ch M, Responses (Rose), Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), Canon O Conway; 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Rose), Sumsion in G; 6.30 ES, Canon O Conway.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 11 S Euch, O quam gloriosum, (Victoria), Ave verum (Byrd), The Priest Vicar; 3.30 E, Pim in B flat, Lord, thou has been our refuge (Bairstow).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M, Canon Ward; 11.15 S Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Canon Peirce; 6 E, Stanford in G.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 10.30 Euch, Mass in G minor (Vaughan Williams), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), Ven M Paget; 5 E, Responses (Leighton), Set me as a seal (Walton).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Archer), Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), Rev Dr D Say; 11.15 HC, Mass in G (Schubert), Canon D Brown; 3.30 E, Responses (Smith), Brewer in D.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), Let nothing disturb thee (White), The Dean; 3.45 E, Sowerby in D.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa brevis (Gabrielli), Canon D Ison; 11.15 M, Responses (Drew), Boyce in C, Rev G Daxter; 3 HC, Responses (Drew), Noble in A minor; 6.30 ES, Most glorious Lord of Life (Harris), Canon K Parry.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.15 Euch, Missa Secunda (Hassler), Canon R Grey; 3 E, If ye love me (Tallis), How excellent thy name (Burke).

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Ave verum (Byrd), Canon Dr M Palmer; 11.15 M, Te Deum (Gibbons), Lord for thy tender mercies sake (Farrant), Mrs G Partridge; 6.30 E, Brewer in D, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Mr J Mitchell.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Ubi caritas (Duruflé), If ye love me (Tallis); 11.30 M, Stanford in B flat, Almighty and Everlasting God (Gibbons); 3.30 E, Nicholson in D flat, Rev R Davies.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 S Euch, Harris in F, Tam peccatum (Taverner), The Treasurer; 4 EP.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Jubilate in C (Britten), Oculi omnium (Wood), Rev J Makepeace; 3.30 E, Responses (Rose), Collegium Regale (Howells).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Mass of the quiet hour (Oldroyd), The Precentor; 11.15 M, Ireland in F, Darke in F; 3.45 E, Noble in B minor, Canon M Reardon.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon N Vincent; 3 Ch E; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 9 Euch, The Dean; 11 S Euch, Vierne in C sharp minor, Ave Maria (Parsons), Rev N H Brown.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 M; 9 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, The Archdeacon; 6.30 EP.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, The Provost; 6 Ch E.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, The Dean; 6.30 S Euch, Dom Gregory Murray, Prayer of St Richard of Chichester (L J White), The Archdeacon.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis in B flat (Mozart), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Canon R Hanmer; 3.30 E, Responses (Neary), Kelly in C, Canon C Chapman; 6.30 NP.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30 M, Britten in C; 10.30 Euch, Mass in B flat (Schubert), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), The Treasurer; 3.30 E, Kelly in C, I was glad (Parry).

PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 C, The Provost; 11 S Euch, The Provost; 6.30 E, Canon A Wilkinson.

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 9.30 Euch, Sumsion in F, Canon J Bell; 11.30 M, Responses (Ayleward), Te Deum in F (Ireland); 5.30 E, Dyson in D, The Dean.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Responses (Howells), Te Deum in A (Stanford); 10.30 S Euch, Bairstow in D, Archdeacon of Bromley; 3.15 E, Collegium regale (Howells), Blessed city, Heavenly Salem (Bairstow).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Missa Festiva (Peeters), Canon J Davies; 11.30 M, Responses (Rose), Nicholson in D flat, Canon D Durston.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Ven S Lowe; 6.30 E, Mrs J Zunde.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch, Collegium regale (Howells), God be in my head (Rutter), Rev M Kitchen; 3 Ch E, Stanford in C, The Provost.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & L; 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Messe solennelle (Langlais), Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), Canon P R Strange; 3.15 E, Responses (Clucas), Murrill in E.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Hear my prayer (Purcell), The Chancellor; 6 E, Responses (Rose), Blest pair of sirens (Parry).

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Canon R Gage; 6.30 E, Canon G Nairn-Briggs.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa brevis (Seiber), Darke in F, Rev P G Walker; 11.30 M, Stanford in C, The Lord hath been mindful (S S Wesley); 3 E, Dyson in D, Rev P de N Lucas.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 11 M, Collegium regale (Howells), Canon D Hutt; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis in F (Mozart), Ave verum (Mozart), Rev J Goodall; 3 E, Magdalen Service (Leighton), Rev W Scott; 6.30 ES, Rev B Fenton.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), O clap your hands (Gibbons), The Archdeacon of Basingstoke; 11.30 S Euch, O sacrum convivium (Messaien); 3.30 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton).

YORK MINSTER: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Darke in A, Canon J Toy; 11.30 M, Collegium Regale (Howells); 4 E, St Paul's Service (Howells), Canon J Rendall.

ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL, Hertfordshire: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11 M, Responses (Reading), Te Deum (Weelkes), Mr D Sawyer; 6.30 E, Responses (Smith/Stone), Short Service (Hooper), Miss E Micklebugh.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Jesu, the very thought of Thee (Vittoria), Rev C A Mitchell; 3.30 Ch E, The Lord has been mindful of us (Wesley)

ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), Canon M Mingins; 11.30 Ch C; 3.30 Ch E, Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), Responses (Neary).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Cantata No 82 (Bach), Rev J Acheampong.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS; 10 MS, Missa brevis (Leighton), Rev Dr F Douglas; 11.30 MS, Jesu meine Freude (Bach), Rev Dr F Douglas; 8 ES, Rev D Robertson.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), Rev J Millard; 3.30 Ch E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Haec dies (Byrd).

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: 11 Rev R Frazer; 6 Rev R Frazer.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Notre Père (Duruflé), Canon S Oliver; 3.15 E, Lord, thou hast been our refuge (Walker), Rev Dr C Cunliffe.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Bell Amfitrit altera (Lassus), The Vicar; 6 E & B, Wise in F, Rev I Davies.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev Dr J Stott; 6.30 Rev R Bewes.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa O regem coeli (Palestrina), Blessed are they (Purcell).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Mr J Watherston, Verleih uns frieden (Mendelssohn); 12.15 HC; 6 Ch E, Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev S Hood; 6.30 Rev J McMahon.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS, Rev S Downham; 5, 7 Informal Service, Mr J Jennings.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Mass in E minor (Bruckner), Beati quorum via (Stanford); 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, O sacrum convivium (Victoria).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF ST SARKIS, Iverna Gdns, W8: Memorial service for Founder, Mr Calouste Gulbenkian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev T Miles.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Ch Euch, The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Ch M, Darke in A minor, Salve regina (Poulenc), Canon J Oates; 6.30 E, Watson in E, Festival Te Deum (Britten), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Ch M, Te Deum in C (Stanford), Declare his honour (Purcell), Rev T Goode.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev J H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev W Alexander-Cairns.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9M; 11 M, Impromptu (Vierne), Missa sexti toni (Croce), Ave verum (Elgar).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Batten Short Service, The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev D Reeves; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family Service, Prelude & Fugue in C (Bach), Rev D Richards; 6.30 HC, Rev M Okello.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP, Os justi (Bruckner), Sister Teresa; 6.30 E, Remember not, Lord, our offences (Purcell), Rev J Streeting.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Be still, my soul (Whitlock), Rev T Devonshire-Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), Ave verum corpus (Lassus), The Rector.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 2.45 Chinese Service; 5 Ch E; 6.30 ES, Rev C Herbert.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa brevis (A Gabrieli), Fr B Scott; 6 E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, New English Hymnal Setting, Rev J Ovenden; 6 Living with Faith.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Prof J Caldwell.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Ch Euch, Darke in E, Magdalen at Michael's Gate (Pasfield), Ven G Reid.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Euch, Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa Quarti toni (Victoria), Tantum Ergo (Duruflé), Fr W P Keyes.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Preb M McGowan; 6.30 E.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Sumsion), Te Deum (Chant), Rev P R C Abram.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, O how amiable (Weelkes), Canon E A James.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te Deum (Macpherson), Seek ye him that made the seven stars (Elgar), The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 HC, Stanford in C & F, Stanford Coronation in B flat, The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Rev L H Bryan; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, How beautiful upon the mountains (Stainer), The Chaplain.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to buy *freedom* for those who were under the law, in order that we might attain the status of sons. Galatians 4 : 4

BIRTHS

BLOOM/BAYLISS - On July 19th at the Hospital of St John & St Elizabeth, to Amanda and Richard, a beautiful daughter, Jasmine Lily - a very special angel.

CAHILL-SMITH - On July 12th at East Surrey Hospital, to Katie and Philip, a daughter, Madison Patricia Elizabeth.

COMBER - On 22nd July 1997 at The Royal Free Hampstead to Caroline (née Bradshaw) and Gavin, a daughter, Isabelle Louisa.

CRIPPS - On 22nd July 1997 at Queen Charlotte's, to Margaret (née Mullin) and James, a daughter, Theresa Jude Barbara, a sister for Leonard, Richard, Frederick and Julia and the twentieth grandchild for Gretta.

ELWES - On July 15th in Johannesburg, to Pernille (née Barrow) and Hugh, a son, Charlie Richard Jeremy, a friend for Quail.

FURNHAM - On July 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Alison (née Green) and Adrian, a beautiful son, Benedict Adrian Felix.

HOPE - On July 23rd, to Suzanne (née Compagnoni) and Giles, a daughter, Anna Louise.

KELISER - On July 18th at The Portland Hospital, to Ingrid and Lode, a daughter, Nina. Thank you London, Staine and Almera.

MACPHERSON - On June 22nd, to Christina (née Mellenfield) and Greig, a son, Archie Cameron, a brother for Matthew.

BIRTHS

McCARTHY - On July 2nd, to Mario (James) and Emma (née Hitching), a beautiful and adored son, Frederico Francis Adrian.

PORTMAN - On July 21st, to Al and Michael, a second son.

PREST - On July 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Serena and Rupert, a daughter, Willa Alice.

RICHARDS - To Anna (née Pelly), Nick and Benita, a daughter and sister, Lottie Mariah, born at home on 16th July 1997, delivered by father and grandmother.

SYMES - On July 25th 1997, at Pietersburg, South Africa, to Camilla (née Tice) and Andrew, a daughter, Rebecca, a sister for Robert.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BAYLIS:EMPSON - Arthur and Penelope at St Andrews Church, Old Headington, Oxford, on Saturday, 26th July, 1947.

HARVEY-JONES:ATCHESON - On July 26th 1947 at Harrogate, North Yorkshire, John to Mary Evelyn (Betty). Congratulations and love from all your family and friends.

MARRIOTT - Ron and Joan of Southbourne, Bournemouth. Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Day. Love Lesley, Roberta and families.

McGOWAN:LIGGITT - On 26th July 1947, at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, Bruce Henry McGowan and Beryl McKenzie (Pat) Liggitt were married by the Rt. Revd. Henry McGowan, Bishop of Wakefield, father of the bridegroom. Present address: The Bell House, 29 Union Street, Woodstock, OX20 1JF.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SALMON:BEGG - Harry to Kathleen on 26th July 1947 in Hollingbourne, Kent, now of Launton, Oxon. Congratulations and love from all the family.

WOODRUFF - Constance and Basil. Many congratulations on your 50th Wedding Anniversary. Much love from all your children.

DEATHS

CARR - James Laurie aged 77, died after a long illness borne with courage and humour on July 21st. Beloved husband of Margaret, much loved father of Richard and Jane and grandfather. Funeral at Barham Crematorium on Monday July 28th at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Parkinson's Disease Society c/o Welch F/D, 99 Station Road, Herne Bay, Kent.

CORRISHLEY - On July 24th, peacefully at St Teresa's Home, Margaret, aged 95, loving and much loved wife for 68 years of the late Philip, mother of Bobbettie, Helen and Mary, and of the late Canon Dennis, grandmother and great-grandmother. Requiem Mass at The Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill, Wimbledon, at 11.30 on Friday August 1st.

DEATHS

CUTHBERTSON - On 24th July 1997, James Robert, MC, Mentioned in Despatches, aged 84. Much loved and devoted husband of Vera, father, grandfather and friend. Formerly of Northwood and former Manager, Drummonds Bank. Funeral and Thanksgiving Service at Lady St Mary Church, Wareham, Dorset on Friday 1st August at 2.30pm. "With Christ, which is far better."

DILLON-MAHON - (Cooleen, Moycullen, Co. Galway) 23rd July, 1997. Luke, aged 30, in the loving and peaceful care of Unit 4, Merlin Park Hospital, Galway, Ireland. Husband of Audrey, father of Susie and Robin, grandfather of William and Luke. So much loved by all of us. Funeral Service at Kilcummin Parish Church, Oughterard at 3 pm Saturday July 26th followed by burial in Churchyard. If wished donations to Luke's memory may be given to the Galway Samaritans, 14 Nuns Island, Galway.

FANE - Vere John Alexander on 23rd July 1997. The beloved husband of Tessa and the adored father of Miranda and Rupert, he will be missed terribly. A private family burial will be held at Fulbeck Church. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at St Peter's, Eaton Square, on Friday 1st August at 2.30 pm.

GRAY - Susie (née Eveleigh) on 23rd July at home and at peace after a valiant fight against cancer. Dearly loved wife of Charles and mother of Sam, George, Sarah and Julian. The funeral will take place at Ashwell Parish Church on Monday 28th July at 3 pm. Donations, if desired, to the Royal Marsden Hospital.

HARRIS - R.J. (Bob), dear husband of Judith Lawson, died on 24th July after a short gallant fight against cancer. Formerly Principal Scientific Officer, Question Documents Division, Laboratory of the Government Chemist and Consultant to Network Security Ltd. Forensic Scientist. Will be greatly missed by those with whom he shared his wide knowledge of literature, art and culture.

HENING - In Dulwich Hospital on 24th July 1997, Robert Hening MBE on the day following his 91st birthday. Former partner of Hening and Chitty Architects, and for over 40 years architect to the Dartington Hall Trust. Beloved father of Valerie and Martin, and grandfather of Sarah, Robert, Susan and Lucy. Funeral Service at St Stephens Church, College Road, London SE21 on Thursday 31st July at 12.30 followed by a cremation service fo the family. Family flowers only, but donations to St. Christopher's Hospice, may be sent c/o Kellaways, 104 Lordship Lane, London SE22 8HF. Tel: 0181 693 2898.

HOWELL - Clare Cecilia (née Beddington) died peacefully on July 22nd after a courageous fight against cancer. Dearly loved wife of David, mother of Julian, Giles and Caroline. Funeral St Mary's, Polstead, Suffolk, 2.30 pm 1st August.

MUNRO - Stewart on 22nd July 1997 in Hereford. Consultant ophthalmologist at Victoria Eye Hospital, Hereford, 1960-1984. Much loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Hampton Park United Reformed Church, Hereford at 1.30 pm Wednesday 30th July. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Victoria Eye Hospital Surgeons' Equipment Fund and Hampton Park United Reformed Church c/o Funeral Directors Dawe Bros., 115 Westfaling Street, Hereford (tel: 01432 274066).

MURPHY - Michael John, Sqd Ldr RAF. Beloved son of Mary and Ken, brother of Celia, Dermot, the late Paul and brother-in-law of Julia. Much loved by Catherine and Klaus and his many friends, colleagues and family. Grandmothers Cecily and Amy, Aunty Carole, Uncle Alwyn and cousins Nicola and Lee. He will always be remembered. Funeral to be held at St. Michael's Church, Lyneham, Tuesday 29th July 1997 at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations may be sent to RAF Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London, W1N 4AR.

NICHOLSON - Marjorie MBE late of St Albans died peacefully after a short illness at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital on 22nd July 1997 aged 82 years. St Hilda's College, Oxford, 1933-1936; Colonial Bureau of the Fabian Society 1945-1955, and Colonial Section, International Department, Trades Union Congress 1955-1972. Funeral at St Michael's Church, St Albans on Friday 1st August 1997 at 11 am. Donations if required, in lieu of flowers to Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG.

PITTI-FERRANDI - On 19th July at Cannes, Maggie (née Rayner), beloved wife of Count Robert Pitti-Ferrandi and darling mother of Emma and Alexander Percy-Davis. Funeral has taken place in France.

WALMSLEY - Margot (née Beck) aged 83, peacefully on July 24th. Beloved wife of Geoffrey and mother of Alaric - who both predeceased her - and twin sister of Norma. Adored by innumerable friends. Funeral private. Any donations to Osteoporosis Society.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

GERRARD - Nicholas Robert. Dearly beloved son of Alfie and Margie Gerrard. We loved you so much Nicky, Mum and Dad.

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هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

BEN HOGAN

Ben Hogan, four times winner of the United States Open Golf Championship, died yesterday in Fort Worth, Texas, aged 84. He was born in Dublin, Texas, on August 13, 1912.

No discussion of who was the greatest of all golfers ever omits Ben Hogan from even the shortest of lists. His supreme quality was accuracy. "Nobody covered the flag like Hogan," is a remark attributed to his great contemporary Gene Sarazen, and those who saw him on his brief but triumphant visits to Britain had ample evidence of this.

Once he had mastered the tendency to hook, which afflicted his early years, his relentless practice, driven by a fanatical desire for perfection, enabled him to control not only which half of the fairway his ball should reach, but which side of which half.

His mastery of the golf ball was matched only by his mastery of himself. He never varied his pace of living or of playing. Among the few who saw him at close quarters off the course, the feeling was that he could not conceivably take more than the exact amount of butter needed to cover the number of slices of toast he had decided to eat.

Britain knew him only after the car crash that left him with a broken body but a spirit unimpaired, returning home to Fort Worth after finishing second in the Phoenix Open early in 1949. When Bernard Darwin saw him at Ganton, captaining the Ryder Cup team that autumn, he doubted whether a man of 37, so incapacitated that he could follow a match for only a few holes, would ever play competitive golf again.

Yet within 16 months of the crash, he had come back to win the US Open for the second time. None of his many victories gave him quite the same satisfaction as that one. Within a few years the story had been turned into a film, *Follow the Sun* (1951).

Hogan's steely determination had prevailed over broken bones and torn cartileges that were to cause him pain for the rest of his life. Somehow, his golf had been better than ever in the period between his return in 1945 to civilian life after two years' military service and his accident. In those years he won two American PGA championships and, in 1948, his first US Open. He was also twice the leading money-earner.

The year 1953 brought confirmation of that improvement, secured against every expectation. His record through that season deserves for sheer quality to be set alongside Jones's Grand Slam in 1930.

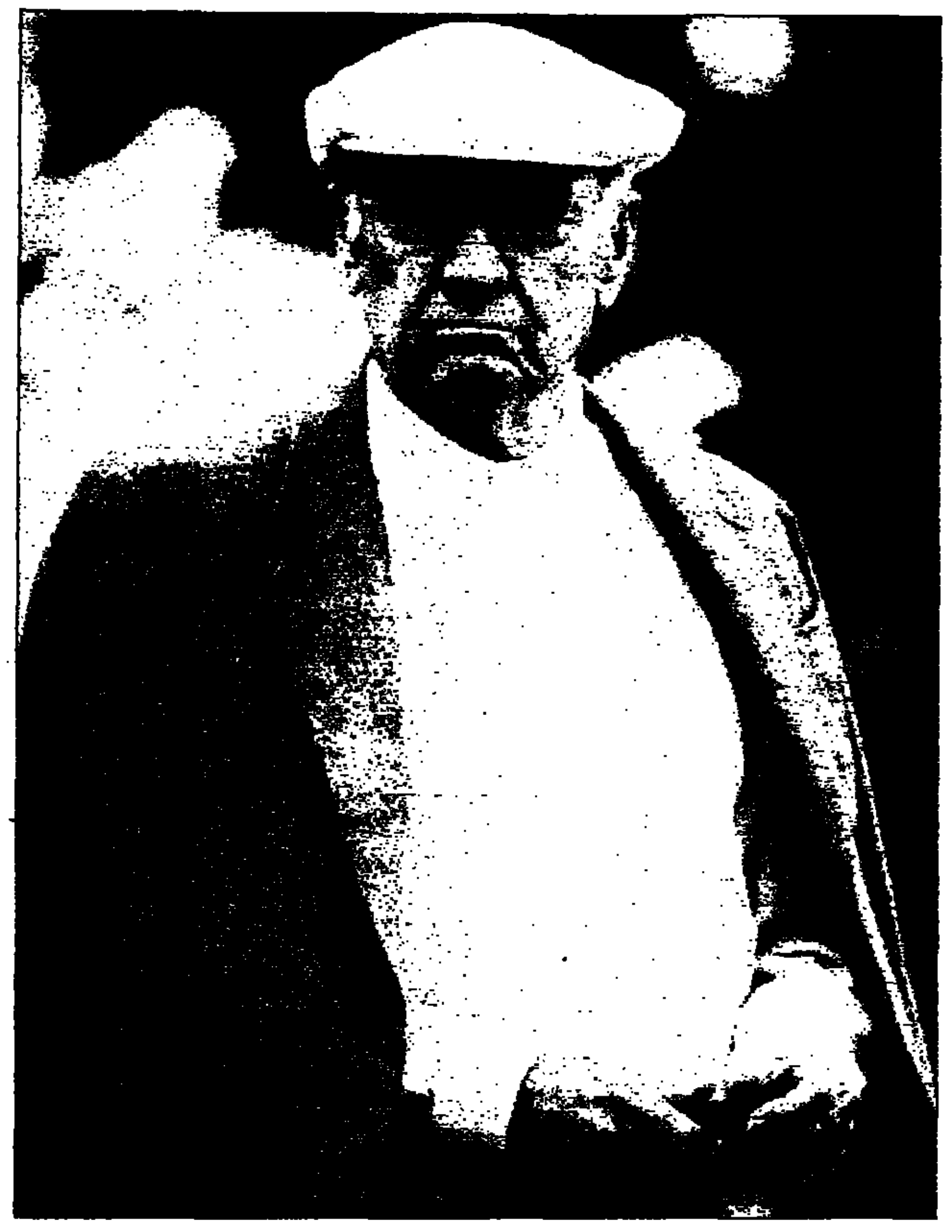
He won the US Masters by five strokes, lowering the record total by five strokes. The US Open he won by six strokes at Oakmont, lowering the championship record total for that monster of a course by 16 strokes, and he won the British Open by four strokes, lowering his score each round until he finished with a record 68.

He played five major tournaments that year and won them all. His accident had restricted his mobility and added physical pain, but it had deepened his already considerable technical knowledge and sharpened his golfing brain.

It also increased the need for thorough preparation in every event he encountered; not that this was any hardship — he had always enjoyed practice. Before his victory in the Masters he played nearly a dozen rounds. It was the same at Carnoustie where he arrived ten days early in order to get used to the smaller ball and the harder turf.

His victory in that British Open has about it now an air of inevitability for he was palpably the greatest golfer in the field, as his large Carnoustie following sensed and acknowledged, with sober, prolonged applause.

He had won their admiration, not their hearts. On his return home he was greeted with ticker-tape down Broadway, but that reflected national pride in a great sporting figure, rather than an emotional delight.



Hogan attached absolutely no importance to popularity; he was dedicated to golf in the way a priest is dedicated to religion or a surgeon to his skills. The limelight interfered with his concentration, and on that altar he was prepared, if necessary, to sacrifice almost anything, even the slightest courtesy to others.

This may have owed something to his background. The son of a Texas iron-worker, Benjamin William Hogan had sold papers as a boy to help make ends meet. According to his biographer, he was in the room when his father blew his brains out with a .45 calibre pistol, in the depths of the American Depression, early in the 1930s.

He must also have had to make tremendous demands on his courage and endurance after the collision which might have ended his life, let alone his career.

Certainly the steel in his character sometimes showed through plainly, and if he is the least understood of golfing figures, the fault was partly his own, for allowing his indifference to appear as contempt. Actually, he had considerable charm and warmth. He took sober pride in his appearance. There was a magnetism about the ease and economy of his movement, and — though this is frequently overlooked — he was a modest man. Unfortunately, he disdained doing anything that made these qualities clear to others.

After his father's suicide, his mother moved the family to Forth Worth and it was there that Hogan discovered golf as a caddie at the Glen Garden Country Club. At the age of 15 he narrowly lost the caddie championship to another boy, Byron Nelson, but at 17 he turned professional. In 1931, at the age of 19, he joined the American pro-tour.

His early playing life was a constant struggle and he was close to bankruptcy on several occasions until he won his first pro tournament at the Hershey Four-Ball in 1938. This laid the foundations of his formidable achievements.

Throughout his career he had to rely on the sheer genius of his play to win people over. He returned once more to Britain, to take part in the World Cup in 1956. Paired with Sam Snead, much of whose career had been in partial eclipse from Hogan, he went out in 31 and started back with a two on Wentworth's West course in one round.

That pace could not last, but it was a shaft of brilliance from a master of the game. In 1967 he returned to the Masters and in the third round scored 66, covering the last nine holes in 30. That brought the deferential Augusta crowd to its feet for some time. He finished tied tenth at the age of 54. He had hoped to win a fifth US title and thereby stand alone on a pinnacle. But golf humbles the highest as mercilessly as the lowest. When he appeared to have won in 1957, he was caught at the post by an unknown, Jack Fleck, who beat him in the play-off.

He was married, in 1935, to Valerie Fox.

WILLIAM BRENNAN

William Brennan, former US Supeme Court Justice, died in a nursing home in Arlington, Virginia, on July 24 aged 91. He was born in Newark, New Jersey, on April 25, 1906.

IN A judicial career almost without parallel in its length and achievements, William Brennan was regarded as the spearhead of a campaign to extend individual liberties in the United States. In more than 1,200 opinions delivered during his 34 years as a member of the Supreme Court, he emerged as its most effective defender of freedoms against government intrusion. The landmark "one-person, one-vote" principle of political reapportionment, the clarification of libel law, and the broadening of the rights of all to seek redress against administrations were all his achievements.

He served under eight Presidents, beginning with the naturally conservative Eisenhower, who very soon became disconcerted by the tenor of new justice's liberal rulings. When subsequently asked if he had ever made a mistake during his presidency, Eisenhower said, "Yes, two, and they are both sitting on the Supreme Court" — a reference to Brennan and his equally liberal compeer, Thurgood Marshall.

When Brennan resigned from the Supreme Court in 1990, it marked the end of an era. President Bush ensured that the Supreme Court would thenceforth be of a much more conservative character. Judge David Souter was nominated to the bench, to be followed by Judge Clarence Thomas. These right-wing young men fundamentally altered the composition of the Supreme Court.

Until his elevation to the Supreme Court by Eisenhower in 1956, Brennan had been little known. The second of eight children of Irish immigrants, he graduated from the Wharton School of Business in 1928, and Harvard Law School in 1931, before joining a law firm in his home town of Newark, New Jersey. There he specialised in labour law until 1949, when he became a judge in the state courts.

On appointment to the Supreme Court, Brennan assumed the role of bridge-builder between his fellow liberals and the court's conservative majority. But he became more outspoken as the bench swung to the Left under Kennedy and Johnson.

Throughout his career he was dedicated to procedural fairness by the government and the equality of justice for rich and poor. In a series of majority opinions, mostly written during the Johnson years under Chief Justice Warren, he influenced virtually every corner of modern constitutional law and much of American daily life.

Among Brennan's most famous rulings was *Baker v Carr* in 1962, known as the "one-man, one-vote" case, which thwarted local corruption by holding that the federal courts could decide cases involving legislative reapportionment. He also wrote the majority opinion for *New York Times v Sullivan* in 1964, which vastly expanded the freedom of the press. Brennan ruled that a public official could not recover damages for a defamatory falsehood relating to his official conduct, unless he proved the statement was made with malice.

Later that year Brennan expanded the principle to cover criminal libel. The press had further reason to be grateful to him in 1967, when, in *Time Inc v Hill*, he ruled that the same conditions should apply to invasion of privacy suits brought against the press by "newsworthy persons".

From the liberalisation of obscenity laws to the rights of criminal defendants and the strict separation of Church and State in the public school system, there was hardly an area of the law in which William Brennan failed to make an impact. Though the only Roman Catholic on the bench at the time, he repeatedly voted against state aid to parochial schools. He was also instrumental in opening the doors of Federal courts to citizens with complaints against government officials, and voted to overturn laws discriminating against poor and illegitimate children.

The 1960s were the years of his greatest impact. In the following decade, as the composition of the Supreme Court became more conservative under Nixon and Ford, he assumed the role of a frequent and vocal dissenter from its decisions. He, William O. Douglas and Thurgood Marshall formed a trio of staunch liberal protesters as much of their work was overturned.

Perceiving an anti-libertarian trend on the Supreme Court, Brennan urged litigants to turn to the state courts and state constitutional provisions so as to protect their individual rights, and expand them further. Though he was never able to convince his colleagues that the death penalty constituted cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth Amendment, Brennan's ability to persuade those with contrary opinions did continue to bring results.

In 1976 he won notable victories in the fields of racial and sexual discrimination. His last act was to assert the power of Congress to enact affirmative action programmes in favour of minorities.

In criminal cases, Brennan opposed Court decisions sanctioning warrantless searches and arrests, and he tried to prevent the whittling away of the rights of suspects. He spoke out strongly against limitations of the exclusionary rule, which barred the use of illegally obtained evidence in Court, and protested a 1972 judgment permitting non-unanimous jury verdicts.

With the retirement of William Douglas in 1975, Brennan became the senior Associate Justice. He had established a reputation as a painstaking legal technician. Had Ronald Reagan not won the 1980 election, he might have become Chief Justice, but when the post fell vacant in 1986, the job went instead to the conservative William Rehnquist.

Thurgood Marshall's tribute to him at the time of his resignation in 1990 is perhaps his best epitaph: "A voice of caution and compassion in urging that this Court not retreat from its constitutional mission to protect individuals' rights of freedom of expression, guarantee that minorities be free from discrimination, and to assure the rights of those accused of crimes."

Brennan's first wife, Marjorie, died in 1982 after 54 years of marriage. Later that year he married Mary Fowler, who had been his secretary for 25 years. She and the two sons and daughter of his first marriage all survive him.

DR MURRAY COX

Dr Murray Cox, consultant psychotherapist at Broadmoor and Shakespearean enthusiast, died during heart surgery on June 28 1997 aged 65. He was born on July 22, 1931.

The sudden death of Murray Cox has deprived forensic psychotherapy of a rare and creative talent who combined generosity of spirit with precise attentiveness and imaginative flair. Always both fascinated by boundaries and concerned to cross them, Cox possessed a formidably retentive memory for creative quotation, which he used extensively in his work as a therapist. Increasingly, he came to believe in the "aesthetic imperative", the potential of creative language to enable patients to explore their self-identity.

Cox refused to join "the grey army of agnostic psychotherapists", and saw his work as in many respects a "priestlike task". He was concerned to enable each individual, with his or her unique story, to relate to the "larger story" of which they were part. The spiritual and theological were always important to him.

A distinctive figure, with large sideburns, crumpled cotton suits, piercing eyes and an enigmatic smile, he was a natural enthusiast, possessed of the verve and excitement of new discoveries, encouraging others with sensitivity and warmth — and with, above all, a sense of fun. His Broadmoor office was rather like a grotto, filled with piles of books and carvings, and with walls hung with unusual pictures, each of which seemed to have a symbolic meaning for him.

Murray Newell Cox was born in Birmingham on July 22, 1931, the eldest of three sons of the Rev Roland L. Cox, a Methodist minister, and his wife, Ruth. He was educated at Kingswood School, before going up to St Catharine's College, Cambridge, in 1949 to read Natural Sciences. He then trained as a doctor at the London Hospital. In 1959 he married Caroline McNeill Love (now Baroness Cox).

During his ten years as a general practitioner, which he always valued for the wide experience it gave him, he pursued his interest in psychiatry and began his long engagement with forensic psychotherapy at Pentonville Prison. In 1970 he was appointed a consultant psychotherapist at Broadmoor.

He worked, outstandingly, in this demanding environment for well over 20 years — almost twice as long as any of his medical colleagues — and Broadmoor came to hold a special significant for him. He tenaciously pursued the establishment in the hospital of group psychotherapy, in the face of the scepticism of a rigid and hierarchical institution with a custodial ethos antagonistic towards therapy.

To survive at all as a psychotherapist in such an environment was an achievement, but Cox did so with enthusiasm, and commanded universal respect. He empathised with patients who are easily treated as scapegoats or pariahs. In the face of a condemning culture, he stood up for the humanity of every individual, including those who had been responsible for terrible and violent acts.

He believed the key to forensic psychotherapy to be powerfully expressed in Freud's conviction that "the sense of guilt was present before the misdeed, that it did not arise from it, but conversely — the misdeed arose from the sense of guilt".

In his psychotherapeutic practice he was humane and sensitive but never "soft". He taught many how to listen with a "third ear" for the deeper meanings in the utterances of the inarticulate or the psychotic. Beyond Broadmoor he was considered a pioneer and a leader in his own field of forensic psychotherapy, in which he had an international reputation.

His professional work found expression in extensive writing, notably *Coding the Therapeutic Process* (1978) and *Structuring the Therapeutic Process* (1978), and the standard work he edited with Christopher Cordess, *Forensic Psychotherapy: Crime, Psychodynamics and the Offender Patient* (1996).

His unusual gift for collaborative writing led to *Mutative Metaphors in Psychotherapy* (1987), which he wrote with a Danish colleague, Alice Theilgaard. In this they explored the richness of poetic and symbolic language as a therapeutic tool — so illuminating both literary and theological issues.

Since Cambridge he had had a deep love for music and literature, and he cherished his appointment as an honorary research fellow of the Shakespeare Institute. Shakespeare's grasp of inner world phenomena, and its implications for psychotherapy, became, as he put it, "an abiding, affectionate obsession". In 1994, this engagement was distilled in another joint work with Theilgaard, *Shakespeare as Prompter*, a study of what he liked to call "the amending imagination".

From 1989, Murray Cox was an adviser to a number of Royal Shakespeare Company productions. Together with Mark Rylance he arranged performances of Shakespeare in Broadmoor (described, in 1992, in *Shakespeare comes to Broadmoor*). These special RSC productions in front of patients could have dramatic effects, not only for patients and staff, but for actors playing in *Macbeth* or *Lear* to an audience that included those who had themselves actually killed.

Murray Cox's brother, John, is Dean of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Murray is survived by his wife and their two sons and daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 003092 OF 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF BRITISH MIDLAND PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 16th July 1997 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above named company from £19,287,356 to £7,568,047 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 22nd day of July 1997
Dated this 24th day of July 1997.
Hammond Suddards
Moor House, 119 London Wall
London, EC2Y 5ET
(Ref: MB/JM/AIR74-1)
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
In the matter of House of Hanover Group Limited
and in the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986
Registered number: 2882599
Former company name(s): None
Trading name: None
Nature of Business: Other Business Services
Trade classification: 38
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 22 July 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Midland Bank Plc
Richard Hale & Stephen Strickland James, Joint Administrative Receiver(s), (office holder no.'s 10133 & 2125)
KPMG, PO Box 730
20 Farringdon Street
London, EC4A 4PP

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
In the matter of Euro-Asia Trading Company Limited
and in the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986
Registered number: 1797221
Former company name(s): None
Trading name: None
Nature of Business: Retailer
Trade classification: 17
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 22 July 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Midland Bank Plc
Richard Hale & Stephen Strickland James, Joint Administrative Receiver(s), (office holder no's 10133 & 2125)
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BAILEY,DAVIDRAMSEYofALICE BURROWS HOME, 2 DWYER ROAD, READING died on 25th APRIL 1997. Particulars to SARJEANT & SHEPPARD of 150 FRIAR STREET, READING, RG1 1HE before 6th OCTOBER 1997

CUNLIFFE, LESLEY HUME (otherwise LESLEY otherwise LESLIE JOANNE) of 31 Alma Place, Oxford OX4 1JW and Flat 4, 10 Rugby Street, London WC1 died on 28 March 1997 particulars to PETTMAN SMITH Solicitors of 79 KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW1X 7RB (Ref: P E Bridge) before 27th September 1997

IRANI, MAKRAM ZANDofFlat 11, 9 Fordham Court, De Vere Gardens, London W8 died on 15 May 1997 particulars to RAYNER DE WOLFE, Solicitors of 31 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON WC1B 5HJ (Ref: Mrs Eileen Graham) before 27 September 1997

UNSWORTH, Lillian, Flat 5, Darby Court, 133 Lancaster Road, London W11, died 11th April 1997: particulars to Edmonds Bowen & Co, Solicitors, 4 Old Park Lane, London W1Y 3LJ (ref: PJS), before 30th September 1997

ON THIS DAY

July 26, 1926

An extract from a long article by Captain Taprell Dorling, DSO, RN (1883-1968). Dorling, who fought in the two world wars, was a naval historian and, under the pseudonym "Taffrail", a novelist and short story writer. He was paid £3.13s 0d (£3.07) for the article.

AVE ATQUE VALE.

A DESTROYER'S END.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

She is only a destroyer; but nine years ago she was in the heyday of her youth. In her Clyde birthplace we thought her good, and we can recollect, almost as though it were yesterday, that first trip to sea when, steaming at 20 knots, we saw the coast fading into a blue-grey line astern and felt her rising and falling to the gentle ocean swell. It was her sea baptism, and we can almost taste the salty tang as the breeze freshened and the first whiffs of spray came pattering against the bridge-screens.

Day after day, night after night, she was at sea in that deep and open expanse of water which lies between the Firth of Forth and the Skagerrak. Sometimes it was fine, sometimes misty; but often furious gales brought huge, leaden-coloured whitecaps rolling down from the northward. The great battleships and battle-cruisers steamed stolidly through them; the light-cruisers were lively and wet; the destroyers smashed over and through the surges — lifting and falling, lurching, sliding, and thumping dizzily with their low decks ever swept by green seas. It was comfortless, wet, and cold, with hot food at a discount . . .

Our little ship was convertible at will into a minelayer, and before long, with other destroyers and a flotilla leader, we came to know the Heligoland Bight, as perhaps no other British flotilla will ever know it. We were there twice a week, sometimes oftener, and on each occasion left something tangible behind us, something which gave the enemy submarines and small surface craft furiously to think. There were hostile minefields too, the locations of which were unknown, and the one never-to-be-forgotten night we paid the penalty. There came the thudding roar of a heavy explosion and a brilliant ruby flash illuminating sky and sea as the fifth destroyer in the line struck a mine which detonated her magazine. Some valuable lives were saved, and the battered remains of the stricken ship were taken in tow, but while the work was yet in progress, another destroyer went up in a pillar of mingled flame and smoke . . .

When, on the grey morning of November 21, 1918, the flotilla carried out its last operation of the war, it was not alone. It was one of those typical North Sea days with a mist reducing the visibility to a few thousand yards; but the sea seemed covered in ships — the entire Grand Fleet with representatives of the United States and France and Japan. Presently, through a smudge of smoke darkening the haze to the eastward, there appeared the grey shape of a British light-cruiser. A few seconds passed, and then the ponderous bulk of an enemy cruiser slid slowly into view. Ship after ship followed her — battleships, battle cruisers, light-cruisers, and destroyers. And at 3.37 p.m. that same afternoon, when the hostile squadrons had been escorted to their anchorage and the British bugles were sounding the sunset call, the enemy ensigns came fluttering down for the last time.

To every right-minded seaman, his old ship is a sentient being rather than a moving mass of inanimate metal, so there will be some who will mourn her passing.

[illegible]

THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

NEWS

Commuters may be train guards

■ Commuters could become part-time guards on Great Eastern Railways. Passengers living in Clacton, Walton and Harwich are to be invited to take on the guard's duties on journeys to and from work in return for free travel and £5.25 an hour.

The "work to work" scheme was condemned by passengers and railway groups. Unions said it was a half-baked idea that would threaten safety standards .... Page 1

Education chief jailed over expenses

■ A "distinguished" education official was jailed for fiddling more than £21,000 in expenses. William Lambert claimed first-class train fares from Wales to London for "academic meetings" when he was really visiting museums and galleries .... Page 1

Car economy

London's elected mayor will be allowed to raise money through parking fees and charges for using congested roads .... Page 1

CPS inquiry

Dame Barbara Mills ordered an inquiry into "flawed processes" in the Crown Prosecution Service after it failed to bring charges over two deaths in custody .... Page 1

Cost of crime

Young offenders commit 13 crimes a minute, costing up to £10 billion a year .... Page 2

On the verge of a row

Hotel gardeners who kept verges mown in a Cotswold village have been told to let the grass grow because parish councillors want wild flowers .... Page 3

Labour purge

National officials are to take over Doncaster Labour Party after fraud and corruption allegations against councillors .... Page 6

Irish talks

Bertie Ahern met Gerry Adams, the first contact between an Irish minister and Sinn Fein since the end of the last IRA ceasefire 18 months ago .... Page 8

Carey's dream

Dr George Carey hankers for life as a parish priest to escape the stresses of Canterbury and the series of brief encounters that go with his job .... Page 10

Gulf rethink

The Defence Ministry is expected to reassess the impact of nerve gas on Gulf War troops after the Pentagon said that fallout from the bombing of a chemical weapons plant may have been greater than previously thought .... Page 12

Rags to riches

India's 150 million Untouchables watched in awe as one of their number was taken in a limousine and then a horse-drawn carriage to be installed as the country's President .... Page 14

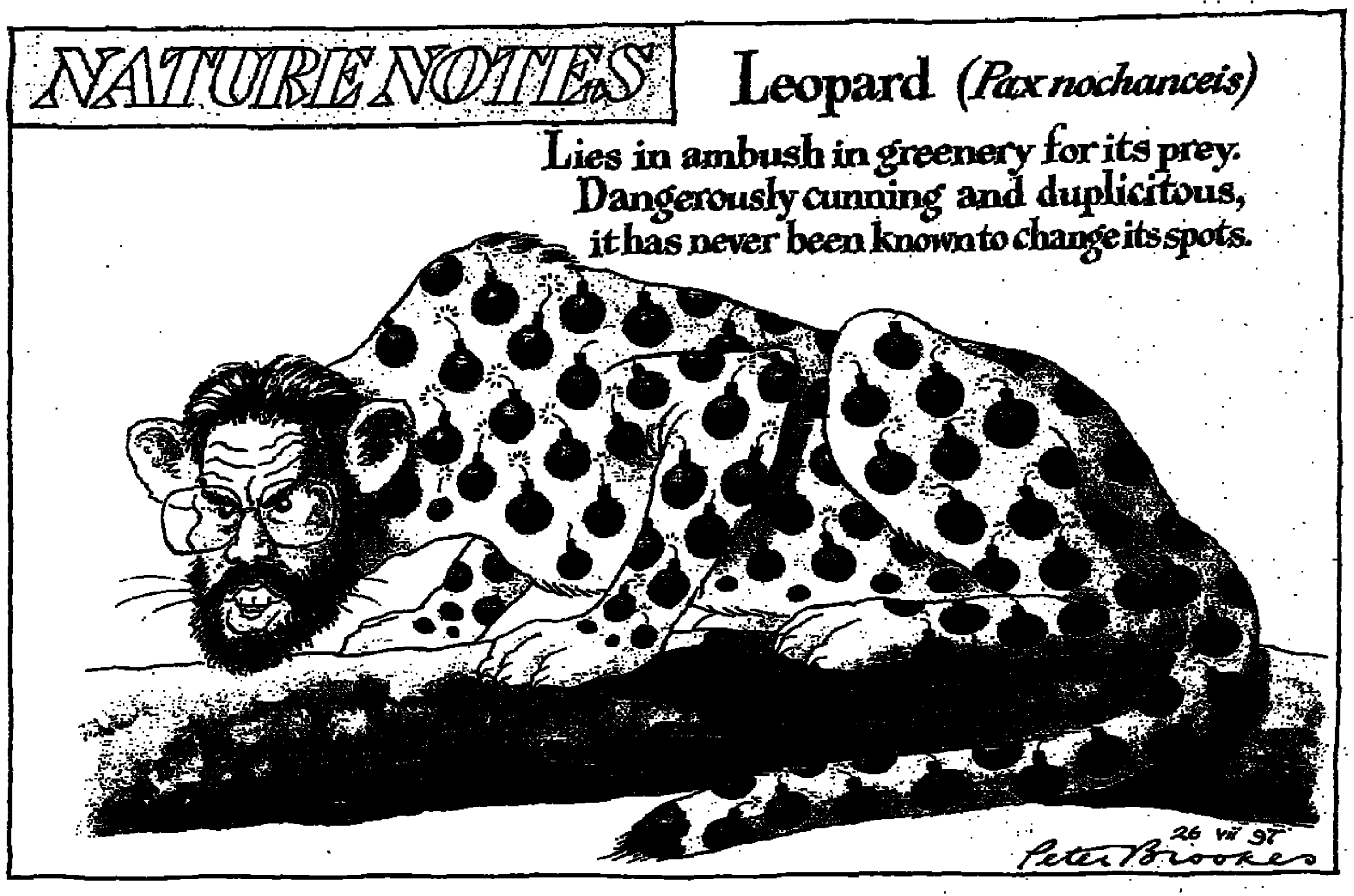
Nutty squirrel attacks six

■ A squirrel with "something wrong with its brain" ran amok in Hampstead, biting six people — including a woman reading in her garden — before being seen off by a building worker armed with a spade. A council official said it was demanding food with menaces. All six victims needed hospital treatment .... Page 6

NATURE NOTES

Leopard (*Pax nochanceis*)

Lies in ambush in greenery for its prey. Dangerously cunning and duplicitous, it has never been known to change its spots.



OPINION

Vultures, not hawks: If interest rates keep rising — sweeping sterling up with them — then services as well as manufacturing will soon start feeling the pressure . Page 21

Oxbridge and Dearing: The Government should allow Oxbridge to levy "top-up" fees. If this is not done overtly it will occur covertly anyway .... Page 21

LETTERS

Hong Kong; Tate Gallery: legal fees; middle age; cricketing Smiths; Radio 3; Shula's regrets .... Page 21

COLUMNS

Philip Howard: Whatever monstrosities politicians erect, Scots and English need each other, as auld stereotypes to define ourselves against .... Page 20

Anthony Howard: If anything has been remarkable over the past three months, it is the restraint that Tony Blair has shown over the imbalance of the Upper House ..... Page 20

OBITUARIES

Ben Hogan, golfer; **William Brennan**, US judge; **Dr Murray Cox**, psychotherapist .... Page 23

BUSINESS

Economy: Interest rate rises appeared more likely with figures showing faster economic growth .... Page 25

Guinness: Guinness and Grand Metropolitan demolished a demerger proposal by rebel shareholder Bernard Arnault, claiming it would produce an extra tax bill of £1.5 billion .... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 11.4 points to 4851.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 106.3 to 106.2 after a fall from $1.6732 to $1.6650 and from DM3.0625 to DM3.0589 .... Page 28

SPORT

Cricket: Dropped catches cost England dear as Australia reached 258 for four in the fourth Test .... Page 48

Football: Tottenham Hotspur are confident of signing Les Ferdinand from Newcastle United for £6 million .... Page 47

Cycling: The first two riders home in the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France were disqualified .... Page 47

Racing: The King George VI Stakes at Ascot features three outstanding horses in Helissio, Pilsudski and Singspiel .... Page 42

ARTS

Naming names: Is it right that the South Bank, Britain's biggest arts complex, should be renamed after a publishing tycoon who pays £17 million towards its facelift? .... Page 19

Rained off: Benedict Nightingale was just beginning to enjoy the revival of *Kiss Me Kate* in Regent's Park when rain stopped play .... Page 19

Green corn: Opera North treated the Proms audience to Erich Korngold's steamy tale of sex and revenge .... Page 19

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Partners in crime: Real life molls .... Page 8

Chanel No 1: Lagerfeld's new muse .... Page 38

Food & drink . Pages 49-52

Weekend

Storm of the century: The cruel sea .... Page 1

Shopping: Mail order chic .... Page 3

Property: Houses with a fatal attraction .... Page 7

10 15

Mr Bean: Snappy days in Hollywood .... Page 6

Holiday quiz .... Page 9

Take it, leave it .... Page 11

In excess: The new party line .... Page 4

Books .... Pages 9-14

What's on .... Page 15-19

TV guide .... Pages 23-51

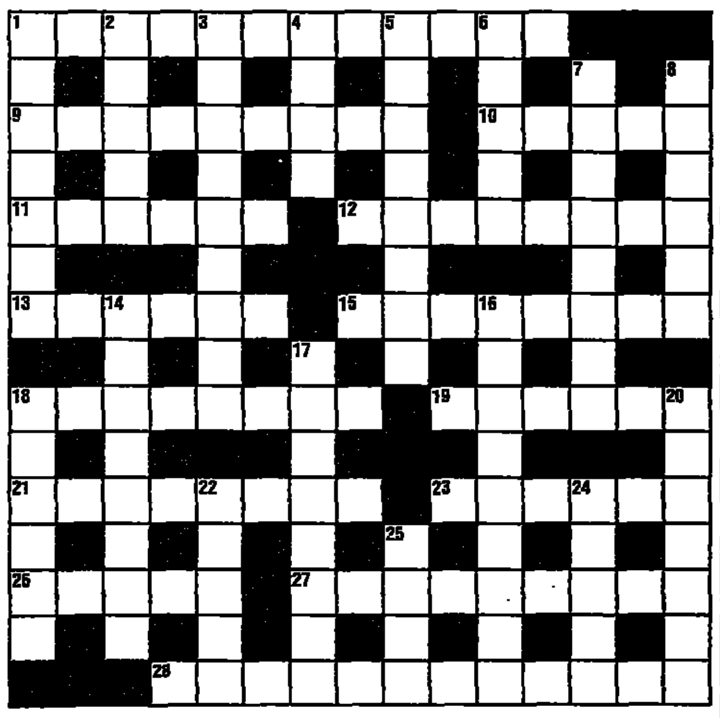
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,542

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

....

....



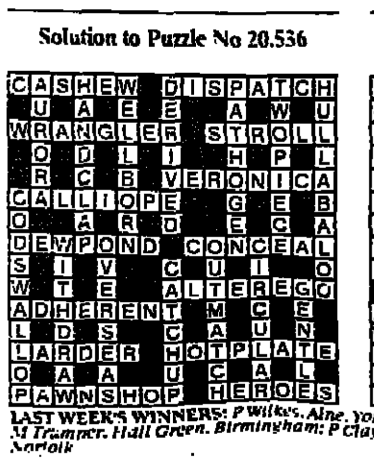
ACROSS

1 Huge solace in collapsing where one can put one's feet up (6,6).
9 Some lords are not concerned with any matter (9).
10 Poet died at the stake (5).
11 Dramatist making a person sick (6).
12 Beef joint to begin with is automatic (4-4).
13 Strong, firm, and cold (6).
15 Become emotional, depressed by catastrophe (8).
18 Put away, having broken down (6,2).
19 Be conspicuous as second best (6).
21 Succeed old duke banished from Milan (8).
23 Don't keep on soldiers neglecting duty (6).
26 Copper can do some discourteous driving (3,2).
27 Revision of page one is work done secretly (9).
28 Noble's seat in Northern town (12).

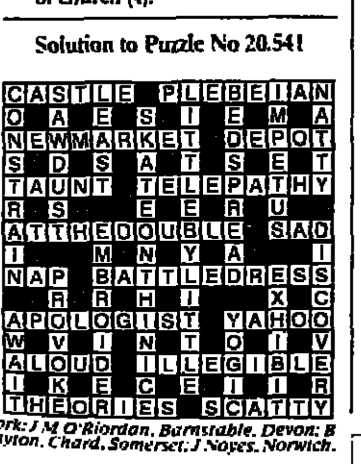
DOWN

1 Remove line specifying *exeunt* (4,3).
2 A pay increase is to occur (5).
3 Long sentence not cut in possibly flowery work (5,4).
4 Archbishop's double pops up (4).
5 One desiring to undergo Japanese drama? Not any more (2,6).
6 Too much not expected (5).
7 This can produce neat movement with bouncing stride (8).
8 Stream over on signal (6).
14 Just starting, Polar explorer's lost footing after short distance (8).
16 Marked down and reprimanded (6,3).
17 Divides up accommodation (8).
18 Quick to support father in church office (6).
20 Absurd lies accept by crazy fool (7).
22 Strike horse with vigour (5).
24 One judge is mad (5).
25 Primate welcoming saint in part of church (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,536



Solution to Puzzle No 20,541



LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *P Wilkes, Alne, York; J M O'Riordan, Barnstable, Devon; B M Tramper, Hall Green, Birmingham; P Clayton, Chard, Somerset; J Noyes, Norwich, Norfolk*

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 5 15 am
Sun sets: 8 58 pm
Moon sets 1 23 pm
Moon rises -

Last quarter today

London 8 58 pm to 5 17 am
Bristol 9 07 pm to 5 27 am
Edinburgh 9 32 pm to 5 08 am
Manchester 9 15 pm to 5 16 am
Penzance 9 14 pm to 5 44 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 5 17 am
Sun sets: 8 56 pm
Moon sets 2.38 pm
Moon rises 12.12 am

New moon August 3

London 8 56 pm to 5 18 am
Bristol 9 06 pm to 5 28 am
Edinburgh 9 30 pm to 5 10 am
Manchester 9 14 pm to 5 18 am
Penzance 9 12 pm to 5 45 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	07 12	7.0	19 25	6.9
Aberdeen	06 39	4.2	19 27	3.8
Avonmouth	00 15	12.2	12 36	12.1
Belfast	04 21	3.5	17 02	3.2
Cardiff	00 01	11.8	12 22	11.3
Devonport	11 14	5.0	23 35	5.1
Dover	04 23	6.2	16 42	6.4
Dublin (N Wall)	04 51	4.2	17 29	3.8
Falmouth	10 45	4.9	23 26	4.9
Greenock	05 42	3.7	18 12	3.4
Harwich	05 05	4.0	17 13	4.0
Holyhead	03 23	5.5	16 09	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	11.31	8.5	-	-
Ilfracombe	11 26	8.4	23 56	8.4
King's Lynn	11 41	6.4	-	-
Leith	08 02	5.4	20 29	5.1
Liverpool	04 25	9.2	16 55	8.5
Lowestoft	02 54	2.3	14 45	2.5
Margate	05 23	4.5	17 35	4.5
Milford Haven	11.45	6.3	-	-
Newquay	10 43	6.3	23 17	6.3
Oban	10 54	3.3	23 51	3.3
Penzance	10 07	5.0	22 34	5.1
Portland	-	-	12 15	1.6
Portsmouth	04 33	4.4	17 27	4.5
Shoreham	04 26	5.9	16 56	5.9
Southampton	03 59	4.4	16 23	4.4
Swansea	11 47	8.7	-	-
Tees	09 07	5.2	21 54	4.8
on-N	05 00	4.2	17 15	4.2

All times BST. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Southampton, 25C (77F); **lowest day max:** Fair Isle, Shetland, 14C (57F); **highest rainfall:** Hunstanton, Norfolk, 0.67in; **highest sunshine:** Folkestone, Kent, 13.7hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 43.6% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a rather cloudy day with occasional showery outbreaks of rain. Northern Ireland will be cloudy at first with some patchy rain, but it should brighten up later. Scotland will also have a little sunshine, but there will be a number of heavy showers.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Isles:** early sunny spells, becoming cloudy, warm and humid with patchy rain. Wind southwest, moderate. Max 25C (77F).

☐ **Central S England, SW England, S Wales:** cloudy with showers. Wind southwest, brisk. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **E England, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** early sunny spells, turning cloudy with some heavy showers. Wind southwest, light to moderate. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **W Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** warm and humid with early sunny or bright spells, becoming cloudy with showers and longer spells of rain. Wind variable, light. Max 22C (72F).

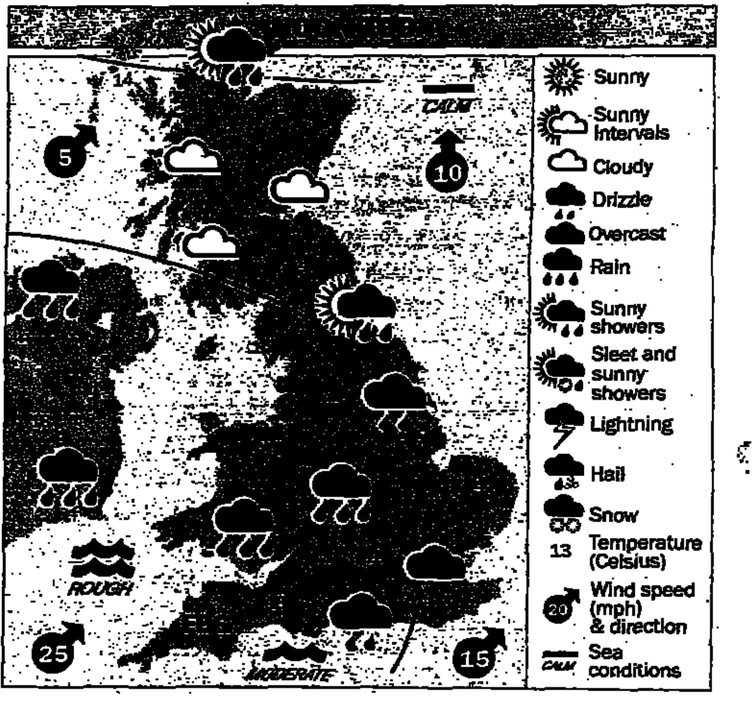
☐ **Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland:** sunny spells but showers later. Wind variable, light. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** mainly dry but mostly cloudy with a few sunny spells. Wind west, light. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **N Ireland:** mainly cloudy with brief sunny spells and heavy and lengthy showers, brightening later. Wind variable, light. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Outlook:** warm and sunny.

☐ **Pollen:** low in all areas except for S Scotland, N Ireland, NW and NE England and N Wales, where it will be moderate (supplied by the Pollen Research Unit).



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

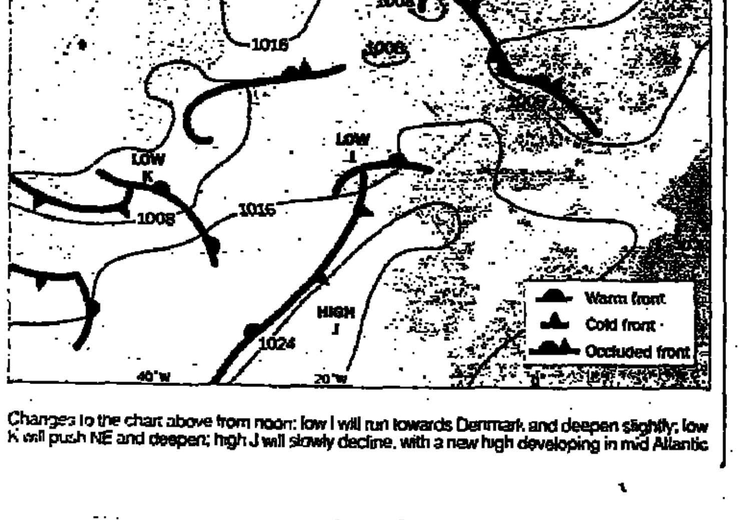
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.2	0.09	19	66	sh	Leuchars	7.3	0.02	22	72	s
Anglesey	8.7	0.01	18	64	b	Littlehmptn	8.9	0.04	21	70	s
Aspatria	8.2	0.14	18	64	sh	London	10.1	0.09	23	73	s
Aviemore	0.3	0.08	17	63	c	Lowestoft	5.2	0.32	22	72	s
Belfast	3.8	0.42	19	66	sh	Manchester	11.4	0.18	20	68	s
Birmingham	11.2	0.31	22	72	s	Margate	10.0	0.02	23	73	b
Bognor R	10.0	0.02	21	70	s	Minehead	9.8	-	20	68	s
Bournem'th	9.2	0.03	22	72	s	Morecambe	8.0	0.02	19	66	s
Bristol	8.0	-	22	72	s	Newcastle	2.7	0.23	21	70	b
Buxton	8.0	0.26	17	63	s	Newquay	5.4	0.05	18	64	s
Cardiff	9.4	-	20	68	s	Norwich	3.7	0.28	21	70	s
Clacton	X					Oxford	10.8	-	24	75	s
Cleethorpes	6.4	0.04	22	72	s	Penzance	X	0.13	22	72	d
Colwyn Bay	9.3	0.30	20	68	s	Poole	7.5	0.03	24	75	s
Cromer	6.1	0.56	19	66	s	Prestatyn	X				
Dunbar	7.1	0.17	21	70	s	Ross-o-wye	11.4	0.01	23	73	s
Eastbourne	X					Salcombe	5.3	0.03	20	68	b
Edinburgh	9.1	0.21	21	70	s	Sauntn Snd	9.0	0.26	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	8.7	0.17	20	68	s	Scarboro'	5.3	0.25	19	66	s
Exmouth	4.6	0.01	22	72	s	Shrewsbury	9.2	0.01	21	70	s
Falmouth	5.5	0.08	18	64	b	Skegness	7.4	0.30	22	72	sh
Fishguard	6.6	-	17	63	s	Southend	9.0	0.02	23	73	c
Folkestone	13.7	0.06	24	75	s	Southport	9.3	0.04	19	66	s
Glasgow	10.2	0.01	21	70	s	Southsea	X				
Guernsey	1.5	0.15	19	66	r	Stornoway	2.4	0.19	17	63	sh
Hastings	10.6	0.07	21	70	s	Swanage	6.9	0.02	21	70	s
Hayling I.	10.2	0.01	23	73	s	Teignmouth	4.7	0.01	23	73	c
Herne Bay	8.8	0.03	22	72	s	Tenby	8.5	-	20	68	s
Hove	8.8	0.04	21	70	b	Tiree	8.2	-	18	64	s
Hunstanton	3.0	0.67	21	70	s	Torquay	4.5	-	21	70	s
Isle-of-man	9.5	0.03	20	68	s	Tynemouth	X				
Isle-of-wight	10.9	0.01	19	66	s	West-s-mare	X	-	21	70	s
Jersey	0.5	0.30	20	68	r	Weymouth	3.9	0.02	19	66	s
Kinloss	4.9	0.03	20	68	b						
Leeds	11.1	0.09	21	70	s						
Lerwick	4.0	0.02	16	61	b						

ABROAD

Ajaccio	27	81	r	Corfu	31	88	s	Majorca	30	86	s	Rome	28	82	f
Akrotiri	30	86	f	C'phagn	21	70	s	Malaga	29	84	s	S Fr'isco	21	70	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s	Dublin	16	61	d	Malta	32	90	s	S Paulo	X		
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	27	81	s	Melb'rne	10	50	s	Salzburg	23	73	f
Amst'dm	19	66	f	Faro	24	75	s	Mexico C	22	72	s	Santiago	15	59	f
Athens	31	88	s	Florence	31	88	f	Miami	32	90	s	Seoul	32	90	c
B Aires	17	63	f	Frankfurt	24	75	f	Milan	29	84	f	Sing'por	33	91	s
Bahrain	37	99	s	Funchal	22	72	f	Montreal	27	81	s	St'kholm	25	77	f
Bangkok	32	90	c	Geneva	22	72	f	Moscow	23	73	f	Strasb'rg	26	79	f
Barbados	30	86	f	Gibraltar	25	77	s	Munich	23	73	f	Sydney	17	63	f
Barcelona	30	86	s	Helsinki	26	79	f	N Delhi	32	90	f	Tangier	25	77	f
Beirut	29	84	f	Hong K	29	84	r	N York	17	63	r	Tel Aviv	30	86	f
Belgrade	27	81	f	Innsbrck	23	73	f	Nairobi	X			Tenerife	25	77	c
Berlin	24	75	f	Istanbul	26	79	f	Naples	32	90	s	Tokyo	31	88	s
Bermuda	30	86	f	Jeddah	39	102	s	Nice	26	79	s	Toronto	21	70	c
Biarritz	21	70	c	Jo'burg	20	68	s	Oslo	26	79	s	Tunis	31	88	s
Borde'x	27	81	s	L Angels	19	66	f	Paris	27	81	f	Valencia	31	88	s
Brussels	22	72	f	L Palmas	25	77	s	Peking	34	93	s	Vanc'ver	18	64	s
Budapest	27	81	f	Le Touquet	19	66	f	Perth	14	57	r	Venice	28	82	f
Cairo	32	90	s	Lisbon	27	81	s	Prague	23	73	f	Vienna	26	79	s
Cape Tn	14	57	f	Locarno	21	70	f	Reykjavik	13	55	r	Warsaw	24	75	s
Ch'church	10	50	X	Luxembg	24	75	f	Rhodes	30	86	s	Wash'ton	X		
Chicago	28	82	s	Luxor	38	100	s	Rio de J	23	73	f	Wel'ngton	12	54	X
Cologne	23	73	s	Madrid	26	79	s	Riyadh	43	109		Zurich	25	77	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low I will run towards Denmark and deepen slightly; low K will push NE and deepen; high J will slowly decline, with a new high developing in mid Atlantic

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

LVMH deal 'carries extra tax cost of £1.5bn'

By Dominic Walsh

GUINNESS and Grand Metropolitan, which plan a £24 billion merger, yesterday claimed Bernard Arnault's rival proposals would cost shareholders an extra £1.5 billion in tax.

Dismissing the LVMH chief's scheme as "smash-and-grab stuff", Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness, vowed to plough ahead with plans to merge with GrandMet.

Earlier this week, M Arnault gave warning he would kill off the merger rather than see his own plans rejected. His proposal envisages a merger of LVMH's Moët Hennessy and the drinks arms of Guinness and GrandMet, with Guinness Brewing, Pillsbury and Burger King spun off into separate companies.

But John McGrath, chief executive of GrandMet, said discussions with the US Internal Revenue Service last year, when the company was considering demerging Burger King, had revealed it would have faced a huge tax bill. He added: "In this instance, the total cost of demerging Pillsbury and Burger King means we would be hit by a £1.5 billion tax bill." But he did not rule out spinning off businesses in the future.

Philip Yea, finance director of Guinness, expressed astonishment that M Arnault, who controls more than 10 per cent of Guinness and GrandMet, was ready to kill the deal as this would drive down the share prices of both. He confirmed that if M Arnault tried to build up a blocking 25 per cent stake in GrandMet, other ways of structuring the deal so that a simple majority was sufficient, would be looked at.

Despite the strength of the riposte, Mr Greener said he was still hopeful some sort of agreement could be reached "at the right price".

Analysts generally welcomed the defence as strengthening the case for GMG Brands. One said: "I am more confident they can get it through on their terms although it is always dangerous to underestimate Arnault."

A spokesman for LVMH said that the statement "adds nothing of value".

Streetfighter squares up, page 27

Pressure mounts for fourth rate rise

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

ECONOMIC growth accelerated in the second quarter of this year, heightening City fears that the Bank of England will respond with another quarter-point rate rise early next month.

The provisional estimate by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) showed GDP increasing at a quarterly rate of 0.9 per cent. This would take the annual rate of growth to 3.4 per cent, compared with 3.1 per cent the previous quarter.

Economists said that the new data, which closely follows figures showing high street sales running at levels not seen since the late 1980s, was likely to persuade the Bank to make a fourth consecutive rate rise when its monetary policy committee assembles on August 7.

But the GDP data also pointed to a growing gap between the booming services side of the economy and a manufacturing sector struggling under the impact of a strong pound.

A number of economic forecasters, including Martin Weale of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, have given warning that further rate rises, coupled with the continuing strength of the pound, could result in monetary policy "overkill" and send the economy into recession next year.

Simon Briscoe, director of research at Nikko Europe, said that the latest data showed the economy is already beginning to slow and predicted the annual GDP growth rate could begin to fall by the fourth quarter of the year. "The figures show only around 20 per cent of the economy is growing seriously above trend and its relative weakness eases the pressure on the monetary policy committee to raise rates," he said.

But David Bloom, UK economist at James Capel, gave warning that much of the extra spending caused by windfall payouts is yet to show in the data. He said: "In the third quarter windfall spending should come through by the bucket load, pushing the service sector to levels where inflation pressures will further exert themselves."

The service sector was the main cause of the improvement in GDP, with the annual rate of growth accelerating to 4.5 per cent from 4.1 per cent in the first quarter. Manufacturing output was broadly flat, while overall industrial production grew slightly because of a pick-up in energy supply after a weak first quarter.

The ONS said there was evidence of especially strong growth in the business services sector. Transport and telecommunications, distribution services and hotel and catering also enjoyed an improved quarterly performance.

But the markets took little notice yesterday of the data, which was largely in line with expectations. The pound closed down around half a pfennig at DM3.0589, while sterling's trade weighted index fell 0.1 to close at 106.2.

The FTSE 100 also closed down 11.4 points at 4,851.5 in a quiet end to the week. But more volatile trading is expected next week as investors again focus on Wall Street. Key US GDP and employment data will be an early test for Alan Greenspan's cautious optimism over the outlook for the American economy given in his Humphrey-Hawkins testimony last Wednesday.

Leading article, page 21

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCKMARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4851.5	(–11.4)
Yield	3.41%	
FTSE All share	2273.55	(–4.49)
Nikkei	20389.54	(+103.31)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8094.86	(–22.07)*
S&P Composite	938.02	(–2.26)*

[illegible]

Federal Funds	$5\frac{7}{16}$%*	([illegible])
Long Bond	[illegible]*	($102\frac{1}{2}$)
Yield	6.44%*	(6.44%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{31}{32}$%	($6\frac{31}{32}$%)
Life long gilt future (Sep)	$115\frac{19}{32}$	($115\frac{11}{32}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6635*	(1.6755)
London:		
$	1.6651	(1.6733)
DM	3.0590	(3.0631)
FFr	10.3130	(10.3300)
SFr	2.5215	(2.5058)
Yen	194.43	(194.07)
£ Index	106.2	(106.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8353*	(1.8327)
FFr	6.1855*	(6.1810)
SFr	1.5130*	(1.5058)
Yen	116.77*	(116.10)
$ Index	105.2	(104.7)

Tokyo close Yen 116.30

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct) $18.85 ($18.50)

GOLD

London close $324.35 ($322.85)

* denotes midday trading price

David Codling said the fundamentals of Hozelock's business are "very strong"

Hozelock shares plunge after washout weather

By Chris Ayres

IT NEVER rains but it pours for Hozelock. The garden hose company, whose export orders have been severely affected by the strong pound, saw domestic business washed out by the wettest June in Britain this century.

To make matters worse, the wet weather was not confined to Britain. Nearly every other European country to which Hozelock exports was drenched by unseasonal rainfall.

Hozelock said yesterday that its misfortunes would wipe at least £1 million off this year's profits, while some analysts predicted profits would be closer to £6.5 million than the £10.5 million forecast.

The City was typically unsympathetic, and Hozelock's shares plunged 78p to close at 280p — a long way from their high of 514½p in September last year. The raid washed away £18.4 million of the company's market value.

David Codling, Hozelock's chief executive, yesterday battled to hide his frustration with the weather. "Factors which are completely out of our control have come together to hit our sales," he said.

"It is particularly disappointing when the fundamentals of the business are very strong. We have a 74 per cent market share in Britain which is growing, and we are also strengthening our market share in continental Europe."

Mr Codling said costs would have to be reduced and that 18 jobs had been axed this week in Birmingham.

Sacked Ronson duo seek £½m

By Jason Nissé

Hodgson: fired by Ronson

HOWARD HODGSON, the former funeral director, and Christine Pickles, his girlfriend, who were ousted as directors of Ronson last month, are suing the lighter and watchmaker for nearly £500,000 in compensation.

The duo claim that they were "stigmatised" by the manner of their sackings and are demanding that Ronson pays out the full amount due under their contracts of employment.

Mr Hodgson is claiming £383,000, representing two years of salary, pension and perks, and Ms Pickles £104,000, equal to one year's money. Ronson is paying them until Wednesday's annual meeting but believes they are not entitled to any further payoff.

The duo were chief executive and corporate development director respectively of the group, which issued two sets of profit warnings within months of raising £10 million in a rights issue and made a loss of £2.2 million last year.

The writ issued by Nabarro Nathanson claims that Mr Hodgson and Ms Pickles were "forced to resign in circumstances where no criticism of [their] performance as an employee was or could be made properly". However, they admit the performance of the company has been "poor where compared to forecast performance".

Mr Hodgson, who was unavailable for comment yesterday, is believed to be preparing an offer for Ronson. He recently approached Albion Consortium Fund, which controls 17.7 per cent of the group, with a 37p a share offer for its stake.

SFA under fire for closing stockbroker

By Gavin Lumsden

INTEGRATED Asset Management, the fund manager, last night accused the Securities and Futures Authority of unnecessarily closing John Siddall and Son, a Manchester stockbroker that it was about to rescue.

The SFA had ordered the firm to cease trading for failing to maintain adequate financial resources. The firm incurred a bad debt of £600,000 last year when a group of private clients in London failed to pay dealings in one stock.

The SFA said that the firm had informed the regulator that it would rectify its finances but had failed to do so.

In June the regulator expelled two of the firm's directors for deceiving it over their dealings in Anglia Television Group shares in 1994.

Last night the firm was in last-minute merger talks with a number of its rivals in Manchester. It expected to reach a solution over the weekend. John Siddall and Son had managed £50 million on behalf of 7,000 private clients.

Peter Leonard, director of IAM, said the SFA's action had been unnecessary. IAM had given the broker £670,000 as part of a planned reverse takeover. The SFA said the money had been held in a client account and not in the firm's capital account.

WEEKEND MONEY

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Anne Ashworth on the latest pension abuse

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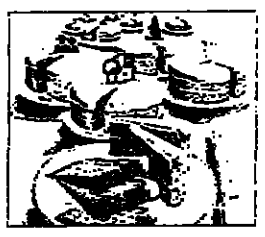
Mutuals v banks. Who is winning in the rate war?



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هكذا صدر الأصل

Lex steers upmarket after £44m disposals

By Oliver August

LEX SERVICE, the vehicle retailing and leasing company, yesterday sold its downmarket car dealerships to Pendragon for £44 million to focus on the high-margin market for Mercedes and Jaguar cars.

Pendragon, another car distributor, entered into the deal as part of a £64 million investment plan that will be financed from a £56 million four-for-seven rights issue at 265p a share. It hopes to acquire a further 30 dealerships. Pendragon shares fell 35p to 313½p. Lex rose 2½p to 403p.

Andy Harrison, Lex's chief executive, said the company had made an important strategic move that would focus Lex Retail on fewer, specialist manufacturers where it had a good track record of performance.

David Leibling, the communications director, said: "The dealerships we are selling are mainly Ford and Vauxhall. They are high volume, low margin. Their return on capital is well below 10 per cent. That is not acceptable. Our other dealerships have returns of almost 20 per cent."

Pendragon acquired 24 dealerships from Lex, which is now left with 37. Mr Leibling said: "We plan to invest up to £10 million in further acquisitions." But he said that the number of dealerships would not rise above 50 again. At least some of the £10 million will go towards the refurbishment and relocation of dealerships.

Lex will receive 40 per cent of the sale proceeds on completion at the end of September, 30 per cent after one year, and another 30 per cent after two years. The sale gives a 10 per cent discount off the book value of assets and is earnings neutral, Lex said. A £6 million hit for associated costs and £25 million in goodwill will be charged to Lex.

Mr Leibling blamed the carmakers for some of the problems in improving margins at the high volume end of the market. He said the manufacturers were causing disruption in the market by trying to influence the sales process.

In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits at Lex rose from £27.7 million to £30.4 million. Earnings rose to 19.1p a share from 17p. Turnover fell to £777 million pounds, from £812 million. The interim dividend was lifted from 6.4p to 6.8p.

Pendragon also published interim figures. Pre-tax profits increased from £5.9 million to £6.7 million. Earnings per share went from 10.2p to 11.8p and the dividend was raised from 3.3p to 3.6p.

Tempus, page 28

Cortworth agrees to bid by BI

By Oliver August

CORTWORTH, the specialist engineering company formed via a management buyout from Williams Holdings in 1994, has agreed to a £93.6 million takeover bid from BI Group.

BI, a subsidiary of the privately-owned NIC Holdings, of Birmingham, is offering 196p a share, a 25 per cent premium to Thursday's closing price of 156p. The shares have fallen from a high of 195p in September 1996 because of sluggish trading in Cortworth's construction and plastics divisions.

Bill McMurray, the Cortworth chief executive who led the buyout from Williams, is expected to leave the business. He said that the offer represented good value for Cortworth shareholders.

Pointing the way: Sir Trevor Chinn, the chairman of Lex, left, with Andy Harrison

Pitcher defiant at Utilities meeting

By Christine Buckley

SIR Desmond Pitcher, executive chairman of United Utilities, was in defiant mood at yesterday's annual meeting of shareholders, insisting that he would stay at the helm of the water and electricity company after last week's controversial departure of the chief executive, Brian Staples.

Sir Desmond denied that Mr Staples's sudden departure was linked to pressure for him to give up the executive chairman's post. After the meeting, Sir Desmond said: "I've no intention of resigning. I have worked to build this company up."

At the meeting, in Manchester, attended by 300 shareholders, Sir Desmond faced a call for his resignation and criticism over executive pay. Seeking explanation of Mr Staples's departure, one shareholder said: "I do not think you should remain as chairman of this company if you do not justify your actions."

Sir Desmond, who also unveiled a review that could hit discretionary spending on customer rebates and voluntary compensation, refused to disclose the reasons behind the exit of Mr Staples. Nor would he let non-executive directors take shareholder questions about their credentials.

The board has been criticised by analysts for lacking heavyweight figures and for being under Sir Desmond's influence. Sir Desmond hopes to address these concerns with the appointment of Sir Richard Evans, chief executive of British Aerospace, as a non-executive director.

Huntingdon shares suspended

By Our City Staff

DEALINGS in Huntingdon Life Sciences, the company at the centre of a storm over laboratory experiments on animals, were suspended yesterday after criticism of the company by George Howarth, the Home Office Minister.

The shares were suspended at 54p, valuing Huntingdon at £61.6 million. The shares recently traded at 121p, a three-year high. Huntingdon asked for the suspension in order to prepare a reply to Mr Howarth's threat to revoke its licence to use animals in laboratory experiments.

Mr Howarth was responding to a Channel 4 documentary broadcast in March that included images of dogs kept in squalid conditions.

The Government said it would revoke Huntingdon's licence to experiment on animals at the end of November unless the company met 16 stringent safety conditions.

As a result of the documentary and a subsequent investigation, two employees have been charged with offences under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act and the licence of a third has been revoked.

Christopher Cliffe, Huntingdon's chief executive, said yesterday that Mr Howarth's statement had taken the company by surprise. "We only received a letter with the Home Office's decision this afternoon, about an hour before his response was read out in Parliament," Mr Cliffe said.

He rejected suggestions that losing the certificate of designation would force the company to close.

Tempus, page 28

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Members named for Low Pay Commission

THE Government yesterday announced the names of the eight people who will sit on the Low Pay Commission, which will recommend a rate for a minimum wage under the chairmanship of Professor George Bain. The list includes three union officials, two academics and a member of the main organisation for employers. The eight are David Metcalf, Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics; Stephanie Monk, director of human resources for Granada Group; Paul Gates, general secretary of the Knitwear, Footwear and Apparel Trades Union; John Cridland, director of human resources policy for the CBI, Rita Donaghy, an official of Unison; Lawrence Dewar, chief executive of the Scottish Grocers' Federation; Bill Callaghan, head of economic affairs for the TUC, and William Brown, Professor of Industrial Relations at Cambridge University.

More than 500 people applied for the unpaid job of a member of the commission, which is expected to recommend an hourly rate next year after taking evidence from both sides of industry. The commission is smaller than had been expected, but includes representatives of all sides of industry, as the Government had promised. The Institute of Directors said it felt that the balance was reasonably fair, but there was inadequate representation of small and medium-size businesses, which would be particularly affected by a minimum wage. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, said that the minimum wage was one of the Government's top priorities and would ensure minimum standards for workers.

Bond sentence appeal

AUSTRALIA'S top prosecutor began court action seeking a tougher prison sentence for Alan Bond, the failed entrepreneur, over the biggest corporate fraud in the country's history. The Western Australia Supreme Court began hearing an appeal against the four-year sentence imposed on Bond, which the prosecution described as "manifestly inadequate". Bond admitted he failed to act honestly as a company director and with intent to defraud when he created a A$1 billion (£444 million) unsecured loan from Bell Resources to his ailing Bond Corporation.

Waterford backs link

WATERFORD FOODS and Waterford Co-operative Society said the proposal to merge Waterford with Avonmore was approved by the members of the society at a special meeting yesterday. Waterford said 86 per cent voted for the merger, well above the 75 per cent required. Waterford Co-op said it intends to accept the proposal in respect of its holding of 8.5 per cent of the ordinary 'A' shares and its holding of all ordinary 'B' shares in Waterford Foods. Waterford Foods said all necessary approvals for the merger have been obtained from members of Avonmore Creameries and Avonmore Foods.

Waddington warning

SHARES in Waddington fell 9p to 254½p as the paper group said that sterling's strength will harm operating profits in its year to March 31. David Perry, chairman, forecast a negative impact in translating results of overseas subsidiaries, and said: "At the time of our results announcement in June, we had factored the higher value of the pound into our budgets for the coming year. Since that time, sterling has appreciated further, and on this basis we estimate that there will be an additional adverse impact of around £1 million on group operating profit for the current financial year."

Avocet seeks £5m

AVOCET, the mining company, hopes to raise £5.4 million through the private placing of 3.25 million shares at 165p each. The shares represent less than 10 per cent of the company's total capital. The cash raised through the placing will be used to pay off outstanding debts and provide working capital. The group says that it expects a rise in tungsten prices, and hopes to reschedule a number of its loan repayments. Among the investors in the placing is Jocelyn Waller, Avocet's chief executive, who will raise his stake in the company from 6.3 per cent to 7.6 per cent.

Hearts trims loss

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN, the Scottish premier league football club, which was floated in London two months ago, reduced its pre-tax losses from £2 million to £1.5 million last year. Gate receipts grew from £2.5 million to £2.9 million, helping to lift turnover from £4.3 million to £4.9 million. The club is continuing its restructuring before new television and sponsorship deals are made next year, and it expects turnover to be boosted by the record sale of 8,200 season tickets and 10,000 home and away Hearts strips. The loss per share fell from 34.1p to 25.5p. No dividend will be paid.

Delays hit Puma sales

PUMA, the German sportswear group, expects sales growth below 10 per cent this year after turnover climbed 6 per cent in the first half. "Overall we are expecting single-digit rate sales growth for the 1997 business year," Puma said in its interim statement. The company said that net profit rose 6.1 per cent to DM41.2 million (£13.4 million). Orders in hand on June 30 were up 18.8 per cent at DM205.7 million. In spite of good orders, delays related to the start-up of a new logistical centre in Germany slowed sales in May and June, and the effect is expected to continue into the third quarter.

Britannia Group bids

BRITANNIA GROUP, the Cheltenham construction company that recently sold its loss-making housebuilding division to Bovis Homes, has made an £8.4 million agreed cash bid for British Building and Engineering Appliances (BB&EA), in which it already has a 55 per cent stake. The deal, which values BB&EA's shares at 75p each, represents a 40 per cent premium on the company's share price on February 4, the day before the offer period began. Britannia, which was hit by a £2.5 million loss on its discontinued activities last year, said the acquisition would boost its earnings per share.

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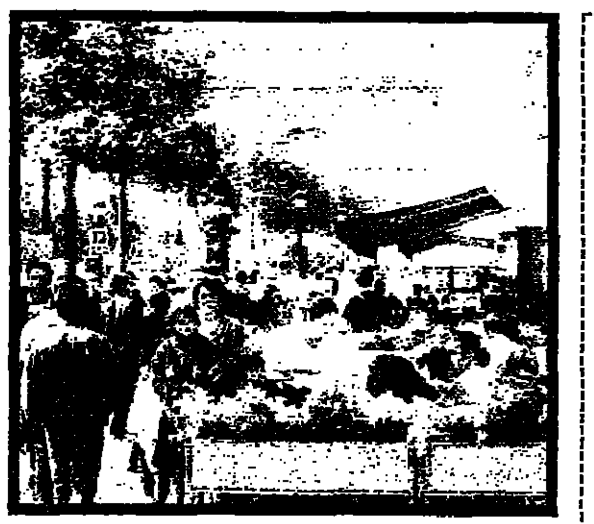

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CHANGING TIMES

Float is on, insists Hall of Fame

By Fraser Nelson

HALL OF FAME, the football exhibition company chaired by Geoff Hurst, insists its £4.8 million Alternative Investment Market float is going ahead, in spite of reports of "technical difficulties" with its £4 million fundraising.

Steve McVickers, a founding shareholder, denied that fundraising had hit the rocks. "There have been a few problems with technical difficulties, but there is no question about it being called off," he said.

Gary Trowsdale, managing director, denied that there had been any difficulties at all and described Mr McVickers's comments as "outrageous". The only problem, he said, was the departure of Malcolm Evans who, with Mr McVickers, once worked for Firecrest, the technology stock delisted from the AIM.

However, Nabarro Wells, the nominated adviser, refused to give a date for dealings. "This is not an institutional placing," said Nabarro's Richard Pearson. "We are raising money from a number of wealthy individuals, which makes it a bit different, but as far as I am concerned the flotation will happen in weeks rather than months. But no transaction is complete until it is over."

Titled tilt at export market

By Fraser Nelson

THOMAS GOODE, the Queen's favourite china shop, has appointed a titled style council of four to advise on its plans to take its luxury goods into Europe.

Lord Patten, a former Education Secretary, Lord Gowrie, Lady Powell and Earl of Snowdon have been recruited as advisers to Rumi Verjee, a City financier who has taken complete control of the company.

Lord Gowrie, a former Minister for Arts, said yesterday: "I don't think it's libellous to say that the company has a decent profile which has wobbled a little bit recently. But Rumi Verjee is an excellent chap, and I'm glad to see he is getting it back on track."

All four will be treated as non-executive directors and will be paid an undisclosed salary. They are all customers of the company's Mayfair shop and will attend quarterly board meetings.

Mr Verjee, who also sits on the board of Blacks Leisure, took control of the company when Robert Newman, its former chairman, sold his 51 per cent stake after a disagreement with Alex Riahi, his then partner.

Another departure from Ivory & Sime

By Paul Durman

IVORY & SIME has suffered another blow with the departure of Raymond Haines, who is leaving to join Lazard Asset Management after only a few months at the troubled Edinburgh fund manager.

Mr Haines, a former chief investment officer at Lloyds Investment Managers and Hill Samuel Asset Management, was the most senior of the recruits who joined in February to bolster Ivory & Sime's senior management team. The firm had recently lost four fund managers who had been unhappy working for Colin Hook, the managing director who resigned shortly afterwards.

Mr Haines was hired to manage Ivory & Sime's pension fund money but the firm soon lost its biggest mandate, a £460 million UK equity portfolio from BAA.

Sir David Kinloch, Ivory's chairman, said Mr Haines's departure was "totally amicable". He added: "The job we recruited him to fulfil is not actually there."

Sir David said Caledonia Investments, Ivory's largest shareholder, was not trying to sell the fund manager, contrary to recent rumours.

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.36	2.18
Austria Sch	22.48	20.82
Belgium Fr	66.22	61.26
Canada $	2.428	2.240
Cyprus Cyp£	0.937	0.865
Denmark Kr	12.21	11.32
Finland Mkk	9.61	8.86
France Fr	10.8	9.97
Germany Dm	3.22	2.97
Greece Dr	503	464
Hong Kong $	13.67	12.47
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.09
Israel Shk	6.21	5.56
Italy Lira	3149	2912
Japan Yen	206.63	191.30
Malta	0.691	0.632
Netherlds Gld	3.630	3.335
New Zealand $	2.70	2.47
Norway Kr	13.28	12.29
Portugal Esc	320.53	298.50
S Africa Rd	8.31	7.35
Spain Pta	268.29	249.50
Sweden Kr	13.97	12.87
Switzerland Fr	2.67	2.45
Turkey Lira	272813	252735
USA $	1.770	1.627

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

"There's big money in small print ... The lawyers who produce the pages of dense, grey print that accompany City deals are making a killing themselves. A new "league table" of firms shows even modest players in the legal markets are racking up fees in the tens of millions"

Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

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Waddington warnin

Avocet seeks £

Hearts trims loss

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: RORY McCARTHY

Leap into business paid off for hang-gliding daredevil

An adventurer with a finger in a number of fruitful pies talks to **Sarah Cunningham**

ROBIN MAYES

When about to invest, Rory McCarthy looks at the quality of the concept and management while keeping "one eye firmly fixed on the exit"

Rory McCarthy decided to begin a career in business as he hurtled to earth from 36,700 feet with nothing between him and certain death but an oxygen tank and a hang-glider strapped to his back.

"I realised at that point that I either stopped or I would die," he recalls. After spending the first 25 years of his life enjoying himself, it was time for a change: "Much to my parents' relief, I decided that I would get a proper job," McCarthy says.

His jump set a world hang-gliding altitude record. His decision set him on the route that has taken him, 12 years later, via stockbroking and investments in everything from tiger prawn farming to restaurants, to the head of two quoted companies and a high-profile business and ballooning partnership with Richard Branson, the Virgin boss.

Although McCarthy's main investment company still has fingers in many pies, up to half his working week is now spent on Virgin business, while much of his free time is spent preparing for Branson's next attempt to go round the world in a balloon.

Frustratingly for McCarthy, in spite of his other achievements, he is most remembered as the chap who had to pull out at the last minute from Branson's last attempt at ballooning around the world because of pneumonia. It was his replacement, Alex Richie, who apparently saved the lives of Branson and the other pilot, Per Lindstrand, by climbing out of the balloon at 1,500 feet to jettison a propane tank.

For McCarthy, the disappointment of not going on the last try makes him all the more determined to go this time. The only obstacle between him and the place he has been promised, he says, is his own tendency to balloon around the waist.

Meeting someone who has spent much of his life leaping out of planes and balloons at jet cruising height, and who obviously loves talking about his exploits, it is difficult to get round to discussing business. His office on Kensington High Street — conveniently near his home and that of Branson — is plastered with pictures of him in balloons or in his own supersonic plane. But, a true salesman, he switches easily to talking with almost equal enthusiasm about his work.

The two companies he heads are McCarthy Corporation, which is quoted on the Alberta stock exchange in Canada, and Victory Corporation, which is listed on the AIM. Victory is a main shareholder in Virgin Vie, the cosmetics company set to launch in the autumn, and in Virgin Jeans, the clothing company. McCarthy Corporation has a range of investments, including a recently acquired stake in V2, the reborn Virgin record business.

McCarthy's first step into business, those 12 years ago, was as a stockbroker and it was taken more or less by chance. "My best friend, who had just come out of the Gurkhas, had just got a job at W I Carr," McCarthy recollects, "and I knew that, in terms of intellectual capability, and he'll forgive me for saying this, we were on a level playing field."

In spite of his own initial doubts about his suitability, he soon found himself enjoying his work at the brokerage, a specialist in South-East Asia's emerging markets, and began making a lot of money. So much in fact that he was soon out-earning his elder brother, Tim, who was then trading swaps at Bank of America. Tim eventually joined Rory at W I Carr and the two have worked together ever since.

As Rory tells it: "My development was almost in proportionate inverse to Tim's. At prep school, it was always a battle between me and another chap as to who was going to be last." Although his brother went on to a first at Cambridge, Rory says: "I had not gone to university; I was jumping out of planes and hang-gliding and I thought this was what life was all about."

His father, whose career in the aviation business had taken the family all around the world, lent him some money early on so that he could try a little investing himself. He put it into the Hong Kong stock market, which was doing so well at that stage, McCarthy says, that "it was like shooting fish in a barrel".

> ❛ We will be the first people to go round the world by balloon, and we will always be the first ❜

In 1992, he spotted an opportunity when he was approached for financing by Siam Trading, the tiger prawn farming company. He raised backing from the Far Eastern institutional investors he knew through broking, and became chief executive of the company.

The next opportunity, and one that transformed the nature of the company, was the acquisition by Siam Trading of Q-Zar, the company behind the Quasar interactive laser tag game. Getting the backing for Q-Zar was difficult. "Looking back over it, not only was it tough and requiring 24 hours a day," he says, "but sitting on aeroplanes going over to the Far East and putting on a smiley, happy face for the institutions, it was incredibly stressful. I wouldn't say that to get where we are today it was a particularly enjoyable ride; it was really quite fraught. We've taken some big risks."

But, although McCarthy admits that the prawn farming was not the success he had hoped for, Quasar came up trumps and the eventual sale of Q-Zar to management gave Siam a total return of C$60 million on its original C$9.5 million investment.

McCarthy Corporation, as Siam Trading was renamed last year, now has interests in telecommunications, in restaurants (London's Cafe Spice and Smollensky's Balloon) and in aviation through Virgin Executive Aviation, another Virgin joint venture.

The range of investments McCarthy and Victory are involved in is not only unorthodox but confusing. Even McCarthy admits he gets worn out by the constant jumps from discussing telecoms, to cosmetics, to restaurants and to balloons. But he says he and his brother, who is chief executive of McCarthy Corporation, will carry on looking for opportunities, whenever they arrive. "There are three things we look at when we make an investment: the quality of the concept, the quality of the management, and we invest with one eye firmly fixed on the exit."

In spite of McCarthy's decision to go into business, he has never given up his adventurer's life altogether and in 1986 decided to go for the world civilian skydiving altitude record. The jump, from a balloon at 35,600 feet, was made with the same ex-Gurkha friend who had got him the broking job.

For both his world records, McCarthy jumped from balloons piloted by Lindstrand. Eventually Lindstrand Balloons became a subsidiary of the McCarthy Corporation, and it was the balloonist who introduced McCarthy to Branson.

The two got to know each other well when Branson came up with the idea of the round-the-world attempt and asked Lindstrand who should be the third pilot. When Lindstrand suggested McCarthy, he leapt at the chance, and he has leapt at every business opportunity offered by Branson since.

After the disappointments suffered on the ballooning attempts made so far, it would be understandable if McCarthy decided he would be better spending his time with his wife and young children, and left the daredevil stuff to someone else. But it does not seem to have occurred to him.

"The significance for me is that my hang-gliding world record was broken last year, after 12 years. The skydiving record still stands, but it will be broken," he says. "This isn't a world record, it is a world first. It doesn't matter if someone goes higher, faster, what have you. We will be the first people to go round the world by balloon, and we will always be the first. In terms of the world of aviation, other than going to new planets, what is there?"

Streetfighter squares up for next round in merger brawl

Dominic Walsh on LVMH's bitter row with Guinness and GrandMet

The open warfare that broke out this week between LVMH, the French luxury goods group, and Britain's Guinness and GrandMet is the the culmination of ten years of an often uneasy alliance between LVMH and Guinness.

At first, all was sweetness and light. One Guinness insider was almost dewy-eyed yesterday as he recalled being taken on a week-long *Tour de France* shortly after joining to learn about LVMH: sipping Hennessy cognac one day, Moët champagne the next, and returning home laden with the latest Dior ties and Louis Vuitton luggage.

And Bernard Arnault, the man who has built LVMH into a collection of some of the world's leading luxury brandnames, was the perfect host. "Those were halcyon days," said the man from Guinness. "We were like one big happy family."

Guinness's poor performance in recent years was always calculated to put a strain on relations, but its announcement in May that it planned to create a £24 billion food and drink behemoth in a merger with GrandMet was the final straw.

M Arnault, who by this time had reduced his stake in Guinness from a peak of 25 per cent to 14 per cent, was informed of the merger proposal by Tony Greener, the Guinness chairman, just ten days before it was announced. "I was travelling in the US at the time," he recalled in his cool, unemotional style. "I explained clearly to Tony Greener that I was against the deal."

His objections seemed reasonable. After all, not only was he Guinness's biggest shareholder, but for ten years the two companies had operated distribution and marketing joint ventures all over the world.

So was this simply a case of Gallic pique at being left out? "I am not at all driven by such considerations in business," he responded. "I am driven by what is in the interests of my company and the long-term interests of shareholders."

After the initial skirmishes, it seemed some sort of agreement could be reached as Mr Greener and George Bull, the GrandMet chairman, flew to Paris to see M Arnault. As a result of that meeting he formally proposed his now infamous three-way drinks merger, recommending that Guinness Brewing and GrandMet's Pillsbury and Burger King businesses be spun off as separately quoted companies.

It is the demerger, and M Arnault's claim to a 35 per cent share of the enlarged drinks company, that have stuck in Messrs Bull and Greener's gullets. They dismissed the scheme as a complicated and costly break-up of their companies that would give the Frenchman "back-door control" of the world's biggest drinks company without paying a premium.

Last week, it emerged that M Arnault, in the face of what he described as a "vitriolic and unhelpful" response from the GMG camp, came up with an even more audacious suggestion for getting him off their backs. He suggested they might like to buy Hennessy cognac for £3.5 billion, allow him to appoint his own managing director to Hennessy, and make a £1 billion "indemnification" payment to LVMH. Not surprisingly, this failed to impress, being branded smash-and-grab stuff by Mr Greener.

But if GMG thought M Arnault would go away they were wrong. In the course of this week, he has resigned from the board of Guinness, taken his stake in GrandMet past 10 per cent and pronounced the GMG merger dead in the water without his co-operation.

Such guerilla tactics have in the past grated in the rather conventional, staid world of French business. And Messrs Greener and Bull made it clear yesterday that they intend to press ahead with their merger.

But the man described this week by one analyst as having "the icy cool of a poker player and the tactics of a streetfighter" will be doing everything in his power to change their minds.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Swan-song

THE corporate finance team at Barclays de Zoete Wedd are the latest from there to be shipped down river to Canary Wharf this weekend, assuming none of them in their despair slip overboard and trust the weight of their manacles to put an end to their misery. This terrible trade has been going on all summer — at *The Times* we can hear the groans from the rotten hulks as they pass our offices close to Tower Bridge. Now a change of address note from someone in investment banking reaches me.

"This is more than just a relocation," it says, employing a shocking euphemism for what history will surely one day call the Swan Lane Clearances. "These changes will enable us to mobilise our ideas and intellect more effectively on behalf of our clients. In so doing, we will accelerate our development as a leading, international investment bank." Putting a brave face on adversity, I see. At the bottom of the note is a scrawl, from a hand clearly almost too weak to hold a pencil. "Help us," it says. "We are all . . ." But there is no more.

"The grass is always greener last year"

● *A BUSY bee yesterday, Roger Pinnington. He is non-executive chairman of Huntingdon International, pilloried in Parliament for mistreating dogs before it chopped them into little pieces for scientific research. He is ditto at Cortworth, an engineer that agreed to a takeover bid. He may be a little less frantic in future. One chairmanship disappears; a second must be hanging from a thread following the dogs scandal.*

On the Web

THERE are some truly sad individuals out there, and a number are on the Website of the pressure group that failed to convert the Nationwide into a bank. They trade under names such as Stealthbagger, Toots and Delboy, and their ill-written snipings confirm anything I had ever suspected about computer nerds. "The more people who jump on the bandwagon, the smaller the slice of cake for those who spotted this little game years ago," says Delboy cynically.

But two trends emerge. One, the game is not yet over, if these boys are anything to go by — and I think we can safely attribute the male gender to most of them. The second is a profound disenchantment with Michael Hardern, increasingly resembling the David Icke of the carpetbagging movement, and the other defeated candidates. "We want professional committed people to stand for these elections who don't wear nighties," says Demo. "Spot on," adds Delboy. "I'm afraid a man in a dress isn't going to convince anyone."

● *A RETIRED dentist from Suffolk has beaten Lloyd's of London at its own game and voluntarily declared himself bankrupt. Ronald Salter faced a demand for £129,000 to cover his losses at Lloyd's after joining as a name in 1978. Salter, in his seventies, has nothing to lose, no business to worry about, and his pension is unaffected. "If I've been made bankrupt, I want people to know the reason why," he says.*

Cash rich

THE City Takeover Panel has managed to overcome its little difficulty of recent years, an embarrassing over-supply of cash. The latest accounts show that the panel, which is not supposed to make a profit but has done rather well out of the booming stock market, reached the end of the 1996-97 financial year with £7.76 million in the bank, an increase of little more than £200,000, helped by a cut in the contract levy on market transactions.

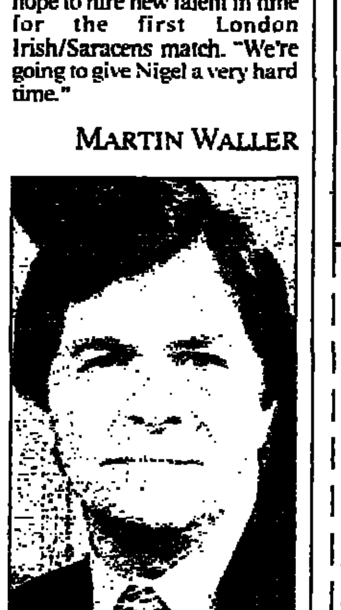
Other favourable financial trends were the cost of a new edition of the Takeover Code and higher legal and other fees, which went on fighting the EC's proposed Takeover Directive, believed by the panel and the City to threaten disaster. I hear there are ambitious long-term plans to cut the surplus entirely one day.

Irish eyes

ONE man looking forward to the start of the rugby season in a couple of months is John Conlan, the Irish former First Leisure boss who is taking over from Nigel Wray as chairman of the Trocadero. Wray is well known as owner of Saracens, the north London rugby club, and his ownership has seen a sharp resurgence in its fortunes.

Less well known is Conlan's involvement in a similar exercise at London Irish. Conlan says: "In a moment of weakness I and a small gang of people decided to form a consortium of business guys and make an offer for the club." They have put in £1 million and launched a prospectus to raise another £1.5 million, and hope to hire new talent in time for the first London Irish/Saracens match. "We're going to give Nigel a very hard time."

MARTIN WALLER



John Conlan made an offer for London Irish

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STOCK MARKET **MICHAEL CLARK**

Share sale helps JCI to exercise Lonrho option

JCI, the mining group, has finally severed all connections with Johnson Matthey after a relationship going back more than a century.

Shares in the precious metals and electronic materials group ended the day 5½p dearer at 570p after JCI's 8½ per cent stake in the company changed hands. SBC Warburg paid 555p each (£104 million) for the 18.9 million shares and quickly sold them on to institutions at 560p. The deal netted Warburg a profit of £756,000.

JCI needs the money to help to exercise an option on a 25 per cent stake in **Lonrho**, 1p firmer at 123p, currently owned by Anglo American. It bought the stake in Johnson Matthey in 1993, paying almost 500p a share.

But as Gordon Thorburn, a director of JM, noted: "There have been rumours for the past few weeks that the stake was being sold. The two companies go back more than 100 years. But there is no longer any commercial logic in JCI holding a stake".

Share prices generally ended the week on a subdued note, with the pound's strength continuing to give cause for concern and prompting another round of profit-taking. After reversing an early 18-point gain, the FTSE 100 index managed to close above its low point of the day. It ended 11.4 down at 4,851.5 in thin trading that saw 780 million shares change hands. The fall on the week was 25.7.

The banks suffered profit-taking with **Standard Chartered** down 33½p at 971½p, **Royal Bank of Scotland** 10½p to 631p, and **Bank of Scotland** 6p to 423½p.

Commercial Union got off to a brisk start, rising 17½p to 700p, helped by Salomon Brothers, the US securities house, upgrading its recommendation for the shares from "hold" to "buy" ahead of interim figures due next month.

Andrew Pitt at Salomon said: "The shares were undervalued to an extent which is not justified by currency factors and trading difficulties in France".

Granada ended the week on a positive note, rising 28½p to 812½p, after Dresdner Kleinwort Benson came out positive on the shares. Paul Slattery at Dresdner says the acquisition of Yorkshire-Tyne Tees will be earnings enhancing in the medium term. Frazer Ramzan at rival Lehman Brothers agrees. Slattery says start-up costs at British Digital Broadcasting will also add value longer term.

Granada celebrated with a Coronation St knees-up after a bullish broker helped drive shares up 28½p

Pendragon dropped 35p to 313½p after asking shareholders to dig deep into their profits by way of a rights issue. The motor trader is raising £56 million by way of a four-for-seven at a discount 265p. The proceeds will be used to finance the acquisition of 17 dealerships from rival **Lex**, up 3p at 403p.

Avocet Mining is also raising £5.4 million via a private placing of 3.25 million shares at 165p. It wants the money to reduce debts and provide working capital. The price lost 8p at 168½p.

Drew Scientific rose 9p to 120p after announcing plans to raise £2.7 million by way of a placing at 108p to help to develop and launch new products.

Debonair Holdings, the European airline operating out of Luton airport, took off on its first day of dealings on Easdaq after a placing of shares by Credit Lyonnais laing at 450p. The price ended the session at 467½p, a premium of 17½p as more than one million shares were traded.

Utilitec was the worst performer among the top 350 companies with the price tumbling 26½p, or almost 36 per cent, to 47½p. The engineer says it is now on course to make losses "substantially" in excess of market expectations. Bid speculation drove **Christian Salvesen** 23p higher at 319½p, after briefly touching 325½p. **Hays**, down 11½p at 564½p made an approach last year and City speculators are hoping that it wants to make another attempt. The Salvesen share price is up 42p on the week.

Cortworth leapt 36½p to 192½p on the back of the agreed bid from BI Group. The terms are worth 196p a share.

A profits warning left **Hozelock** 78p lower at 280p. The garden equipment group said that the wet summer weather and strong pound would hit profits.

James Cropper, down 26½p at 315p, has become another casualty of the strong pound. Revenues may be up at **Electrocomponents**, down 8½p at 426½p, but the chairman was quick to express concern to shareholders at the AGM about the impact of a strong currency.

Waddington also fell 9p to 254p as shareholders were told currency factors could dent profits to the tune of £1 million. David Perry, chairman, said in June that the group had factored in the high value of sterling, but since then it had climbed strongly.

Further reflection of this week's boardroom reshuffle at **Trocadero** boosted the price 5¾p to 24p. Former First Leisure boss John Conlan replaces Nigel Wray as chairman, while Nick Tamblyn, also of First Leisure, becomes managing director.

Shares of **Huntingdon Life Sciences** were suspended at 54p so that the company could prepare a response to criticism in the House of Commons this week from George Howarth, junior Home Office Minister.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Bond prices in London outperformed other European markets to end the day sporting some useful gains. The less than expected rise in second-quarter GDP has allayed some fears, for the time being at least, that a rise in interest rates next month may be staved off.

In futures, the September series of the long gilt finished £¼ higher at £115$^{19}/_{32}$.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 put on nine ticks at £113$^{19}/_{32}$, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was £⅛ better at £99$^{15}/_{16}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares drifted into negative ground after opening higher in quiet trading. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 22.07 points down at 8,094.86.

JJB Sports touched 420p before rallying to close 1p firmer at 456p, compared with the high for the past year of 531p. The company has denied whispers it is on the verge of issuing a profits warning. Instead, it says trading in the 22 weeks to June 29 has exceeded expectations, with total turnover up 60 per cent.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
United Utilities	733½p	-35½p	Chief executive quits
Christian Salvesen	319½p	+42p	Bid speculation
Neepsend	31p	-7p	Hit by strong pound
Shani Group	74½p	-20p½p	Warning of losses
GrandMet	609p	-10p	LVMH lifts stake
Hozelock	280p	-113p	Profits warning
Colleagues	93½p	+15p	Moore Corporation bids
BB&EA	72½p	+15p	Bid expected from Britannia
Utilitec	47½p	-26½p	Losses to be worse than expected

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 8094.86 (-22.07)
S&P Composite .... 938.02 (-2.26)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 20389.54 (+103.31)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 15658.12 (-51.11)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 989.03 (+3.78)

Sydney:
AO .... 2691.2 (+14.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 4317.84 (-18.10)

Singapore:
Straits .... 1980.96 (-0.32)

Brussels:
General .... 14502.08 (+47.49)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 3025.94 (+52.41)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 1211.10 (+5.30)

London:
FT 30 .... 3068.6 (-6.9)
FTSE 100 .... 4851.5 (-11.4)
FTSE 250 .... 4474.7 (-3.7)
FTSE 350 .... 2328.5 (-4.8)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 .... 2755.74 (-10.60)
FTSE All-Share .... 2273.55 (-4.49)
FTSE Non Financials .... 2291.15 (-4.06)
FTSE Fixed Interest .... 126.41 (-0.27)
FTSE Govt Secs .... 97.72 (+0.16)
Bargains 44074
SEAQ Volume 780.9m
US$ .... 1.6650 (-0.0082)
German Mark .... 3.0589 (-0.0036)
Exchange Index .... 106.2 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.5411
£:SDR 1.2235
RPI .... 157.5 Jun (2.9%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 156.7 Jun (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Cammell Laird	120½		...
Delcam	265	-	2½
EMI B	115		...
Galen Holdings	196½	+	1
Gremlin Group	139½	-	7
Hellcon Pubslg	113½		...
Hitachi Credit (UK)	149½		...
Ionica Group	392½		...
Kingfisher Leisure	174½		...
Reabourne Merlin	108½		...
SBS Group	105½	-	3
Ted Baker	137½	-	2
Thorn B	21		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Active Imag n/p (10)	1		...
Brit Borneo n/p	58	-	½
HIT Enter n/p (270)	47½	-	7½
Jarvis Fund Uts Cv n/p	1½		...
Lon Brid Sftw Cv n/p	37½		...
Tea Plant n/p (120)	5½		...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Gaskell .... 240p (+18p)
Photobition .... 572½p (+35p)
Dudley Jenkins .... 227½p (+7p)
Rank Grp .... 357½p (+11p)
Grainger .... 301½p (+8p)
Reuters .... 634½p (+16p)
Premier Farnell .... 524p (+10½p)
EMI .... 552½p (+9½p)
ICI .... 917½p (+9½p)

FALLS:
Hozelock .... 280p (-78p)
Pendragon .... 313½p (-35p)
Psion .... 313p (-26½p)
Gold Fields Prop .... 171p (-12½p)
McAlpine .... 118½p (-8p)
MMT Comp .... 461p (-14p)
Kingfisher .... 681½p (-20p)
Shield Diag .... 520p (-12½p)
Royal & Sun Al .... 495p (-10½p)
GUS .... 600½p (-12p)
Close Bros .... 399p (-7½p)
Allied Irish .... 519½p (-7½p)
Ryl Bk Scot .... 631p (-10½p)
AB Food .... 552p (-9½p)
Fairey Group .... 486½p (-8½p)

Closing Prices Page 41

TEMPUS

Greenmail in the air

NO SUCH allegation was made but the word "greenmail" was floating in the air yesterday as Guinness and GrandMet rubbished the proposals of Bernard Arnault for a DrinksCo in which LVMH would control the world's largest drinks company with a 35 per cent stake. The most interesting part of yesterday's counter-attack by the GMG team was the account of M Arnault's second proposal. Apparently, the LVMH chairman wanted, among other things, to sell Hennessy to to UDV for £3.5 billion plus an indemnification payment of £1 billion.

The GMG team are to be commended for trying to clear the air (or flush out their opponent) with yesterday's step-by-step refutation of M Arnault's plans but it merely confirms that more than 30 miles of sea divides the corporate cultures of France and Britain. The Guinness chairman's insistence that he would buy Moët-Hennessy at the right price — just skirts the issue. The bottom line is that M Arnault wants to run a big drinks company. He knows that Moët Hennessy's profits have been going nowhere for five years, so the price for the champagne and cognac group is negotiable. Whether LVMH ends up with 35 per cent or 20 per cent of GMG is hardly the question; in either case, LVMH would have every right to demand that M Arnault be chairman.

The problem for the Anglo-Saxons is that M Arnault can continue to cause trouble, buying shares, threatening arbitration proceedings and in the end he will need to be pacified. Whether the ultimate settlement is called indemnification or something less flattering is a matter of nomenclature. The GMG attempt to focus on the tax bill for selling the US food businesses is a bit too clever as it is impossible for outsiders to refute. Nor do they explain why UDV could not be spun off the merged GMG, thereby avoiding the US tax problem. For shareholders, there is nothing in this row except trouble. If M Arnault wants your GrandMet shares, sell them. You can buy back into the deal more cheaply through Guinness.

Huntingdon

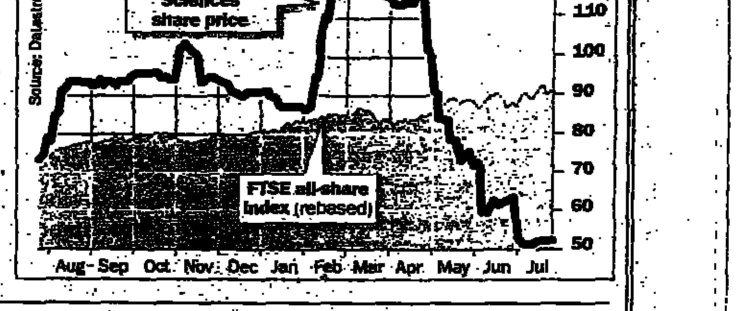
The future of Huntingdon Life Sciences must be in doubt. The stigma of animal cruelty will be difficult to shift, even if the company can persuade the Home Office not to revoke its animal testing licence. Astra refuses to deal with Huntingdon again, while the likes of Glaxo Wellcome, Zeneca and SmithKline Beecham are withholding new work. But even if Huntingdon can satisfy the Home Office's inspectors, why should a large pharmaceutical company take the risk of adverse publicity and awkward questions at the agm. There are plenty of other contract research outfits they can turn to in this secretive industry.

Huntingdon's response to the Home Office bombshell is inadequate. Christopher Cliffe, chief executive, complains about unfair reporting and points to staff and management changes already made — but none on the board.

Much more is needed to restore confidence. With an annual interest bill approaching £4 million, much of it due to bondholders, Huntingdon needs to find some quick answers to address the inevitable decline in its business.

The Stock Exchange has assented to Huntingdon's request to suspend share trading, which helps the company much more than investors. When will the Stock Exchange learn that its purpose is to facilitate dealing?

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE



Lex/Pendragon

BILLIONS are spent developing new cars but after all the design and high-tech production, the products are hustled in a cramped high street showroom by low-tech salesmen. The motor industry has never understood retailing. For years, the manufacturers treated their dealership customers with contempt, restricting their activities under a divide and rule policy that gave buyers rotten service and dealers lousy profits. Yesterday Pendragon claimed that change was on the way as it unveiled a £66 million investment in mass-market motor retailing, buying 17 dealerships from Lex for £44 million.

Change is in the air, but it is unlikely to be enough to make investment returns attractive in this cottage industry. Including central overheads, Lex was probably making only a 5 per cent return on its £55 million investment in the businesses sold yesterday. Lex is quitting the volume end of the business; the company sensibly reckons that 1 per cent margins are not worth the bother. Lex will keep the higher-margin luxury car franchises and focus on contract hire, importing and servicing. Meanwhile, Pendragon is doing the opposite, expanding from its luxury car business into the cut-throat world of Escorts and Astras. Who is right?

Probably neither company. Pendragon believes that its success in developing satellite dealership networks can be turned to delivering good returns from the Lex businesses. But to cover the cost of investment, Pendragon will need to at least triple the £3.4 million profit earned by Lex last year. That will take time and the motor retailing is unlikely to lie still. Volume car dealers, such as Ford and GM, are performing poorly and they will be looking at other means of improving their market share. It cannot be long before successful mass-market retailers, such as the superstores, begin to investigate this market.

All of which begs the question why Lex bothers to continue to sell cars. Lex earns good money from contract hire and importing. Return on investment from the service centres will be in the mid-teens. If Lex can make good money selling cars over the phone and fixing them in a rented garage why plough money into high-street show rooms? It is pure folly.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	981-975	Sep	1094-1097
Sep	992-991	Dec	1110-1107
Dec	1029-1027	Mar	1124-1122
Mar	1054-1052	May	1140-1130
May	1070-1065		
Jul	1086-1093		Volume 2049

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	1590-1572	Mar	1545-1530
Sep	1593-1590	May	unq
Nov	1583-1580	Jul	
Jan	1565 SLR		Volume 2414

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	324.4-21.7
Spot, unq		Aug	322.4-19.5
Oct	328.5-28.0	Oct	316.0-14.0
Dec	323.4-22.5	Dec	316.0-13.0
Mar	325.4-24.2		Volume 1549

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on July 24

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	85.10	108.51	99.76
(+/-)	+0.80	+2.89	+2.29
Eng/Wales	9[illegible].14	108.56	99.63
(+/-)	+0.92	+2.67	+3.14
(%)	-9.0	+7.0	-26.0
Scotland	77.47	105.02	101.20
(+/-)	-1.31	+3.54	-1.77
(%)	-22.0	-22.0	+4.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.95	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Sep)	18.80	+0.40
Brent 15 day (Oct)	18.85	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	20.10	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	20.10	+0.35

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	204 (+1)	206 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	167 (+2)	168 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	94 (n/c)	96 (n/c)
Naphtha	186 (n/c)	189 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	167.25-67.50	Nov	171.50-72.00
Sep	168.75-69.00	Dec	173.25-73.50
Oct	170.00-70.75		Vol. 8969

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	18.55 BID	Dec	18.60-18.65
Oct	18.60 BID	Jan	n/a
Nov	n/a		Vol: 24793

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	79.75	Sep	75.00
Nov	81.90	Nov	77.05
Jan	84.00	Jan	79.00
Mar	86.00	Mar	81.00
May	88.00	May	82.25
Volume: 225		Volume: [illegible]	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	95.5
Mar		81.5
Apr	90.1	91.5
		Volume: 82

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Aug 60.50-61.00

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 97	1250	1225	1230
Sep 97	1300	1285	1290
Oct 97	1395	1375	1395
Jan 97	unq	unq	1415
Vol. 54 lots		Open interest. 3848	

Index 1310 (-16)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2360.5-2361.0	2315.0-2316.0	102900
Lead ($/tonne)	632.50-633.00	643.00-643.50	138725
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1658.0-1659.5	1598.0-1599.0	104075
Tin ($/tonne)	5305.0-5315.0	5355.0-5365.0	15555
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1650.5-1651.0	1651.5-1652.5	3[illegible]43925
Nickel ($/tonne)	6700.0-6705.0	6800.0-6805.0	64706

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	41	51	54½	8	15½	19
(*449½)	460	18	27	33½	23	34½	38½
ASDA	140	12	16	18½	4	5½	7
(*149)	160	3	7	9	14½	16	17½
Boots	750	56	77	—	30	34	—
(*782)	800	32½	54	66	40	53	56½
Br Airways	600	55	71	90	14	25	27
(*636)	650	27	45½	54	35	43	51
BP	800	44	57	73½	24½	43	40½
(*814½)	850	22	39	49	51	60	66
Br Steel	140	19	22	25	3	5	5
(*150)	160	7	11	13	10	13½	13½
C & W	550	67	82	94½	10½	19	23
(*606)	600	36½	53½	66½	30	39	44
CU	700	44	66	77	47	59½	67
(*700½)	750	27	48	56½	78	89½	97½
ICI	900	52	75	91	36½	46	54
(*919)	950	31	53½	65½	64½	73	80
Land Sec	900	60	79	93½	15½	24	27½
(*933)	950	30	50	67	35½	46	49
M & S	550	47	57½	69	13	18½	22
(*574)	600	20½	31	42	34½	41½	45
Nat West	800	85	117	126½	36	57½	72
(*820)	850	59	93	104	59	82½	96
Safeway plc	390	24	34½	42½	12½	19½	23
(*398)	420	11	20½	28	28½	35	38
Sainsbury	420	32½	41½	50½	12½	16½	21
(*436)	460	13½	23	31	32	37	41
Shell	475	25	35½	—	17½	26	—
(*452½)	450	19	27	—	26½	34	—
Smkl Bch	1200	95	123	143	41	65½	86
(*1251½)	1250	60	97	117	64½	89	91
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	51	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	2000	114½	169½	199	67	103	114
(*2023)	2100	71	125	149	119	152	165
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
BAT Ind	500	44	62	69½	23	28½	40
(*527½)	550	23	39	46	50½	55	67
Vodafone	280	20½	33½	39	9½	13	15
(*294½)	300	15½	25	29½	16½	22	24½
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Grnd Met	600	24	45	55	11	21	36
(*610)	650	7½	23	35	41	41	63
Ladbroke	240	10½	20½	32	2	7	9
(*257)	260	6	15½	21½	9	16	17½
Lnd Elec	200	16	21	26½	1½	4½	8
(*219½)	220	5	11	16	4½	15½	17½

July 25 1997 Tot: [illegible] Call: 27603 Put: 9197 FTSE Call: 1702 Put: 3127
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	550	47½	60½	69	8½	15	18½
(*581)	600	19	33	40½	32	37½	40½
Thames W	800	45½	56½	73	31	30	45½
(*804)	850	24½	37½	50	59	67½	73
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
BTR	180	15	20½	26	1½	8	10
(*193½)	200	4	12	16½	10	18½	19½
Br Aero	1300	41½	80	110½	21½	49½	59½
(*1313½)	1350	19½	55½	83	51½	79	84
Br Telcm	390	28½	38	43	12½	21	24
(*414)	420	11	24	29	29½	38	39
Cadbury	550	43	57½	64	3	15	17
(*585½)	600	13	29½	40½	22½	36½	39
Guinness	550	52	64	75	5	13	14½
(*596)	600	15	33	44	16½	30	36
GEC	360	9	23½	29½	8½	15	19
(*361)	390	1½	11	17½	29½	32	36
Hanson	280	19	24	17	2½	9	12½
(*296)	300	7	18	27	10	18	22
LASMO	260	16½	26	32	3½	8	11
(*272)	280	6	15½	21½	11½	16	20
LucasVarity	180	9	14½	20	4½	9½	11
(*182)	200	1½	8	12	18½	21½	22½
Pilkngtn	130	5½	—	—	4½	—	—
(*134)	140	2½	—	—	11	—	—
Prudential	550	52	72	91	6½	21½	26½
(*594½)	600	21½	44	65	24	43	49
Redland	280	21	30	37	2½	9½	12½
(*296)	300	9	18½	26½	10	19½	21
R-Royce	220	12	20½	26	4	11½	15½
(*227)	240	3½	11½	16½	15	22	24
Tesco	420	20½	32	44	6½	15	19½
(*433)	460	3½	13½	26	29	37	40
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4852)

	4750	4800	4850	4900	4950	5000
Calls						
Aug	164	126	95½	66½	48½	32
Sep	219	188	150½	127½	105½	83½
Oct	254	223	197½	163	141	119½
Nov	292½	261	230	201½	178½	156
Dec	—	290½	—	232½	—	184½
Puts						
Aug	45	59½	81	107½	136½	172
Sep	97	107	128	151½	181	210½
Oct	109	129	149	172½	201½	231½
Nov	130½	158½	178	200	227½	255½
Dec	—	158	—	199½	—	256

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Abby Nat	800	55	83½	94	43	57½	66½
(*809½)	850	33½	60½	70½	72	84½	94
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1200	100	147	161½	44	71½	83½
(*1249)	1250	74½	122	135½	68	95½	107
Natl Pwr	550	57½	69	79	9½	17½	20½
(*590)	600	28½	41½	49½	29½	38	41
	Series	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Apr**
Glaxo Well	1300	82	119	142½	50½	66½	75
(*1333)	1350	57	92½	115	73	90½	98
HSBC	2000	163	229½	268	59½	94½	114
(*2092)	2100	108	176½	214½	107	140½	157
Reuter	600	54½	73	84	15	25	29½
(*635)	650	27	49½	57	36	44½	51½
Royal & Sun	460	49	60½	66	13½	18	24
(*495)	500	25	38	44½	30	39½	42
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Blue Circ	390	25	34	47	2	9½	13
(*414)	420	9	21	29½	12½	22½	27
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Kingfishr	650	39½	57	73½	9½	23½	28
(*681½)	700	13	31	46	29	45½	49½
	Series	**Jan**			**Jan**		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Series	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**
Dixons	550	36	52	62	14½	26½	29½
(*567)	600	13	30½	41½	42½	50½	54
EMI Group	548	30½	50½	62½	20	31½	36½
(*552½)	575	19	37½	49	34½	45	50
Tarmac	110	10½	13	16	2	5	6
(*116)	120	5	8	11½	7	10	11½
Hillsdwn	160	16½	—	—	1½	—	—
(*173½)	180	4½	—	—	9½	—	—
Lonrho	120	8½	11½	14½	5	6½	9
(*123)	130	4½	7	10½	11	12½	15
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	280	20	25½	29½	6	10	13
(*298½)	300	9	15	19	14½	18½	22½
Lloyd-TSB	650	40	65	78½	20	42½	52½
(*660)	700	20½	43½	56	57	70	79½
Scot Pwr	420	30	39	45	11	16½	21½
(*444½)	460	10	20	29½	32	37½	41½
Unilever	1700	89½	124½	157	30	54	61½
(*1736½)	1800	35	74	105	81½	102½	108½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Sep 97	115-09	115-24	115-02	115-19	87326
Previous open interest 187129	Dec 97	114-23	115-07	114-23	115-06	1979
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 97	102.96	103.07	102.63	102.91	195987
Previous open interest 286768	Dec 97	102.10	102.12	101.80	102.05	1088
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Sep 97	137.75	138.10	137.48	137.98	46868
Previous open interest 112542	Dec 97	109.85	109.85	109.85	109.83	20
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	125.92	125.92	125.86	125.91	1139
	Dec 97	125.27	125.27	125.27	125.31	90
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	92.80	92.82	92.78	92.81	13784
	Dec 97	92.62	92.67	92.59	92.64	28623
Previous open interest 624250	Mar 98	92.57	92.65	92.53	92.61	25392
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 97	96.72	96.73	96.70	96.71	48864
Previous open interest 1599530	Dec 97	96.54	96.57	96.51	96.55	60598
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 97	93.25	93.33	93.23	93.31	22583
Previous open interest 359255	Dec 97	93.66	93.71	93.61	93.70	17554
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97				99.27	0
	Mar 98				99.12	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 97	98.36	98.38	98.30	98.35	8737
Previous open interest 136632	Dec 97	98.23	98.24	98.19	98.20	6789
Three Mth ECU	Sep 97	95.64	95.70	95.64	95.69	759
Previous open interest 37743	Dec 97	95.64	95.66	95.63	95.65	782
FTSE 100	Sep 97	4906.0	4908.0	4837.0	4878.0	8316
Previous open interest 77429	Dec 97	4940.0	4940.0	4940.0	4942.0	26

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¾ Low 6¼ Week fixed: 6¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth 6[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth: 6[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7[illegible]-7	
Sterling Money Rates	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-6[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-6[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 6[illegible], close 6[illegible].					
Local Authority Deps	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs	5.53	n/a	5.58	5.68	5.85
Building Society CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-6[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applicts: £880m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.34% received: 30%; Last week: £98.355% received: 74%; Avge rate: £6.6136% last wk £6.5774%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc	3[illegible]-3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $323.40-323.70 Close: $324.10-324.60 High: $324.35-324.85
Low: $323.50-324.00 AM: $324.50 PM: $324.10

Krugerrand: $323.75-325.75 (£194.25-196.25)

Platinum: $421.00 (£253.15) **Silver:** $4.32 (£2.595) **Palladium:** $205.00 (£123.25)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for July 25	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.4381-3.4487	3.4441-3.4471	1[illegible]-1pr	3[illegible]-3pr
Brussels	63.000-63.240	63.118-63.226	19-14pr	57-50pr
Copenhagen	11.615-11.660	11.647-11.657	[illegible]pr	1-[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.1305-1.1446	1.1332-1.1378	8-1pr	22-15pr
Frankfurt	3.0497-3.0620	3.0577-3.0604	1-[illegible]pr	3-2[illegible]pr
Lisbon	308.32-309.25	308.81-309.08	[illegible]pr	1[illegible]-1pr
Madrid	257.06-258.04	257.04-257.96	36-25pr	114-95pr
Milan	2969.3-2980.2	2975.9-2980.2	[illegible]pr-[illegible]ds	[illegible]pr-[illegible]ds
Montreal	2.2934-2.3059	2.3036-2.3059	68-0.63pr	1.33-1.27pr
New York	1.6624-1.6668	1.6646-1.6656	0.183-0.162pr	0.568-0.532pr
Oslo	12.597-12.649	12.638-12.649	[illegible]pr	1-[illegible]pr
Paris	10.285-10.319	10.308-10.319	[illegible]pr	1-[illegible]pr
Stockholm	13.123-13.201	13.166-13.186	[illegible]pr	1-[illegible]pr
Tokyo	193.25-194.55	194.30-194.55	1[illegible]-1pr	3[illegible]-3pr
Vienna	21.466-21.543	21.513-21.533	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-1[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.5136-2.5283	2.5199-2.5231	1[illegible]-1pr	3[illegible]-3[illegible]pr

Source: Extel Premium pr. Discount ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3542-1.3555
Austria	12.90-12.91
Belgium (Com)	37.88-37.90
Canada	1.3832-1.3837
Denmark	6.9877-6.9897
France	6.1905-6.1925
Germany	1.8348-1.8358
Hong Kong	7.7395-7.7405
Ireland	1.4659-1.4679
Italy	1785.60-1786.10
Japan	116.46-116.56
Malaysia	2.6490-2.6520
Netherlands	2.0676-2.0681
Norway	7.5860-7.5910
Portugal	185.30-185.50
Singapore	1.4738-1.4748
Spain	154.71-154.82
Sweden	7.9044-7.9119
Switzerland	1.5140-1.5150

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6644-1.6666
Australia dollar	2.2527-2.2556
Bahrain dinar	0.6235-0.6355
Brazil real*	1.7956-1.8001
China yuan	13.691-13.991
Cyprus pound	0.8845-0.8945
Finland markka	9.0050-9.1210
Greece drachma	475.75-482.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.8758-12.8852
India rupee	59.15-60.11
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5010-0.5110
Malaysia ringgit	4.4044-4.4120
New Zealand dollar	2.5457-2.5492
Pakistan rupee	67.15 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0175-6.1415
Singapore dollar	2.4508-2.4540
S Africa rand (com)	7.5410-7.6430
U A E dirham	6.0725-6.1965

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	286	Ladbroke	2,100
ASDA Gp	13,300	Land Secs	532
Abbey Ntl	3,600	Legal & Gn	1,400
Allnc & Leic	857	Lloyds TSB	6,900
Allied Dom	2,700	LucasVarity	5,300
AB Foods	883	Marks Spr	2,800
BAA	3,700	Mercury Ast	3,000
BAT Inds	3,800	NatWst Bk	1,200
BG	26,300	Nat Grid	4,100
BOC	837	Nat Power	3,300
BP	3,200	Next	736
BSkyB	1,800	Orange	712
BTR	18,300	P & O	3,400
BT	33,400	Pearson	1,600
Bk of Scot	1,400	PowerGen	1,300
Barclays	1,800	Prudential	4,000
Bass	3,200	RMC	174
Blue Circle	1,100	Railtrack	1,600
Boots	887	Rank Group	2,800
BAe	1,400	Reckitt Col	599
BA	1,600	Reed Intl	1,800
British Land	903	Rentokil	2,400
Brit Steel	2,800	Reuters	4,500
Burmah Cstl	343	Rio Tinto	1,000
Cable Wire	1,700	Rolls Royce	3,100
Cadbury	3,300	Royal & Sun	6,200
Carlton Cms	1,900	Royal Bk Sct	1,800
Centrica	15,600	Safeway	730
Cm Union	1,900	Sainsbury	5,000
Dixons	3,700	Schroders	56
EMI	1,700	Scot & New	309
Energy Gp	902	Scot Power	2,900
Enterpr Oil	287	Svrn Trent	508
GKN	462	Shell Trans	7,600
GRE	2,100	Siebe	2,100
GUS	2,000	SmKl Bch	3,100
Gen Acc	774	Smiths Inds	1,100
Gen Elec	5,000	Std Chartd	5,500
Glaxo Well	4,600	TI Gp	439
Granada	3,400	Tate & Lyle	7,200
Grand Met	3,800	Tesco	2,800
Guinness	3,000	Thames W	1,300
HSBC	1,300	Tomkins	3,000
Halifax	5,700	Unilever	1,600
Hanson	955	Utd Utilities	2,100
Hays	3,600	Utd News	1,500
ICI	2,000	Vodafone	6,500
Imp Tob	1,800	Whitbread	376
Kingfisher	3,200	Wolseley	1,100
LASMO	639	Zeneca	2,300

	Jul 25 midday	Jul 24 close
AMP Inc	51¼	50⅞
AMR Corp	99½	98½
AT & T	35¼	35¼
Abbott Labs	64⅞	63⅞
Advanced Micro	35¾	36⅞
Aetna Life	113¼	115⅞
Ahmanson (HF)	52¾	53¼
Air Prod & Chem	85	86¼
AirTouch Comm	32¾	31½
Albertson's	36½	36¾
Alcan Alumnm	36¼	36½
Allied Signal	93¾	92½
Alum Co of Am	84⅞	84
Amerada Hess	58½	58⅞
Amer El Power	43¾	43¼
Amer Express	80⅞	79¾
Amer Genl Corp	51¼	51
Amer Home Pr	84¼	84¼
Amer Intl	158½	156½
Amer Stores	25¾	25⅞
Amer Standard	48	47½
Ameritech	67¼	66½
Amgen	61¼	61¼
Amoco	90¾	89⅞
Andrew Corp	28⅛	27¾
Anheuser-Busch	43¾	44⅞
Apple Computer	15¾	15⅞
Archer Daniels	22⅞	23¼
Armco	5	5⅛
Armstrng Wrld	71¼	72⅞
Asarco	33	32⅞
Atl Richfield	70¾	69⅞
Atmel Corp	33⅛	33⅝
Auto Data Pro	49⅞	49⅞
Avery Dennison	42½	42¼
Avon Products	74⅞	73¾
Baker Hughes	42⅛	41¼
Baltim Gas & El	26½	26½
Banc One	51¼	51⅛
BankAmerica	72½	71⅞
Bank of NY	47⅛	46⅞
Bankers Tr NY	99¾	99⅞
Barnett Banks	58½	58¾
Bausch & Lomb	42⅞	43¼
Baxter Intl	59¾	59¾
Bectn Dickinson	54½	53¼
Bell Atlantic	72⅛	71½
BellSouth	47	46⅞
Black & Decker	42½	42½
Block (H&R)	37⅛	36½
Boeing	59¾	59⅞
Boise Cascade	37¼	36¾
Boston Scien	76	76
Bristol Myrs Sq	82¼	82⅞
Browning Ferris	36¼	38½
Brunswick	32⅞	32⅞
Burlington Nthn	95½	95⅞
CMS Energy Corp	35⅞	35⅞
CPC Intl	98½	97¼
CSX	58¾	58⅞
Campbell Soup	51⅛	50½
Carolina Pwr	34¼	34⅞
Case Corp	62½	61½
Caterpillar	59½	59
Central & SW	20	20
Champion Intl	61¼	61⅞
Chase Manhat	107¾	107¼
Chevron Corp	77½	76¾
Chrysler	36⅛	36½
Chubb Corp	68⅞	68¼
Cigna Corp	190½	189
Citicorp	129½	128
Clorox	132½	131¼
Coastal Corp	56⅛	55⅞
Coca Cola	70⅝	70⅞
Coca Cola Ent	28¾	28⅞
Colgate-Palm	77½	77
Columbia Gas	70	69½
ColumbiaHCA	35¾	36⅞
Compaq Comp	141½	140½
Comp Ass Intl	68⅞	69
Conagra	68½	68¾
Cons Edison	30½	30½
Cons Nat Gas	58½	58¾
Cooper Inds	53	53
Corestates	60⅞	60½
Corning Inc	59⅞	60½
C'wide Credit	37¼	37⅛
Crestar Finl	47	47⅛
Crown Cork	50¼	50¾
Dana Corp	40⅞	40½
Dayton Hudson	59½	58½
Deere	55½	55⅞
Delta Air Lines	89	89⅞
Deluxe Corp	34¼	34¾
Digital Equip	42¼	42⅛
Dillard Dept St	37⅛	38½
Disney (Walt)	79½	79⅞
Dominion Res	36¾	35½
Donnelley (RR)	40⅞	40
Dover Corp	72⅞	71⅞
Dow Chemical	90⅞	90½
Dow Jones	43¾	42⅞
Dresser	39¼	39½
Duke Power	48¼	48¾
Dun & Bradstreet	26⅞	26⅞
Du Pont	67⅜	67½
Eastman Chem	58½	58¾
Eastman Kodak	67⅞	68
Eaton Corp	90½	90¾

	Jul 25 midday	Jul 24 close
Edison Int	24⅞	24⅞
Elect Data Sys	44⅛	44¼
Emerson Elec	59⅝	59¾
Engelhard Corp	21⅝	21¾
Enron Corp	38¾	38⅞
Entergy	26½	26⅞
Ethyl Corp	9⅛	9¼
Exxon	62⅞	61⅞
FMC Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
FPL Group	[illegible]	[illegible]
Federal Exp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fifth Third	[illegible]	[illegible]
First Bk Sys	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fleet Fnl	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fluor Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ford Motor	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fortune Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Franklin Res	[illegible]	[illegible]
GTE Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gannett	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gap Inc Del	42⅞	42⅞
Gen Dynamics	83⅞	83⅞
Gen Electric	72¾	72
Gen Mills	68	67¼
Gen Motors	57¾	58⅞
Gen Reinsurance	200⅞	200⅞
Gen Signal	49⅞	49½
Genuine Parts	33⅛	33¼
Georgia Pac	93½	94
Gillette	102⅞	100¾
Glaxo Wellc ADR	44½	45⅛
Goodrich (BF)	45⅞	45½
Goodyear Tire	64	63½
Grt All Pac Tea	27⅛	26⅞
Great Lakes	47⅞	47⅞
Halliburton	44¼	44⅛
Harcourt General	48	48⅞
Heinz (HJ)	46½	46⅝
Hercules	53	54½
Hershey Foods	54⅛	54⅞
Hewlett Packard	65⅞	64¼
Hilton Hotels	32⅞	32⅞
Home Depot	47¾	47¼
Homestake Mng	13⅞	13½
Honeywell	76⅞	77
Household Intl	119	119
Houston Inds	21⅛	21⅛
Humana	23½	24½
ITT Corp	63⅞	63½
Ikon Office	28⅞	29¼
Illinois Tool	53½	52⅞
Illinova	22½	22⅛
INCO	29½	29¼
Ingersoll Rand	66¼	64¼
Inland Steel	22½	22⅞
Intel Corp	90¾	89½
IBM	107⅞	107⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	51⅞	51⅞
Intl Paper	58⅞	59⅞
James River Va	39⅞	39⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	62½	61⅞
Kellogg	88	88⅛
Kerr-McGee	64	65⅛
Kimberly-Clark	49⅞	50¾
Kmart	10½	10¾
Knight-Ridder	50¼	50⅞
Lilly (Eli)	116½	116¼
Limited Inc	21⅛	21⅛
Lincoln Nat	67⅞	67¼
Litton	51½	52⅛
Liz Claiborne	48¾	48⅞
Lockheed Martin	103¼	103¼
Louisiana Pac	22⅞	22¼
MCI Comms	33¾	34¼
Manpower Inc	48¼	48½
Marriott Intl	69⅞	69⅞
Marsh & McLnn	73¼	73⅞
Masco Corp	42½	42⅞
May Dept St	54⅞	55½
Maytag Corp	28¼	28⅞
McDonalds	52½	52½
McDonnell D	76½	77⅛
McGraw Hill	68¼	67⅞
Mead Corp	69⅞	70¼
Medtronic	91⅞	90⅞
Mellon Bk	49¼	49
Merck Inc	105¼	103⅞
Merrill Lynch	68⅛	69⅞
Microsoft	142	138
Minnesota Mine	95	95½
Mobil Corp	74½	73¼
Monsanto	50	50¾
Morgan (JP)	109½	109⅞
Motorola Inc	79¼	79⅞
Natl Semi	34⅞	34⅞
Natl Service Ind	49⅞	49½
Navistar Intl	20¼	20⅞
NY Times A	51⅞	51½
Newmont Mng	39⅞	39½
Nike B	61¼	61⅞
NL Industries	13½	13½
Noram Energy	15⅞	15⅞
Nordstrom	55½	56
Norfolk Sthrn	111	110⅞
Nthn States Pwr	51⅞	50⅞
Norwest Corp	62⅞	62⅞
Nynex Corp	55½	54½
Occidental Pet	23⅞	23½
Ohio Edison	21⅞	21⅞
Oracle	55½	54½

	Jul 25 midday	Jul 24 close
Oryx Energy Co	23¼	23½
Owens Corning	41¼	41⅞
PPG Industries	63⅝	62⅝
PMI Group	59⅛	59⅝
PNC Bank	44¼	44⅞
PP&L Res	19⅞	19⅞
Paccar Inc	50⅝	50⅝
Pacificorp	22⅝	22⅝
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pitney Bowes	76	75⅞
Polaroid	58⅞	58
Procter & Gmbl	154½	153½
Providian	36½	36½
Pub Serv E & G	24⅞	24½
Quaker Oats	49⅛	47½
Ralston Purina	90	89½
Raychem Corp	92½	92½
Raytheon	55⅞	55⅞
Reebok Intl	51¼	51½
Reynolds Metals	74⅞	74½
Rockwell Intl	64⅞	64½
Rohm & Haas	95½	94½
Royal Dutch	54⅞	55½
Rubbermaid	26½	26½
SBC Comms	58	57⅞
Safeco Corp	46½	46½
St Paul's Cos	81¼	81½
Sallie Mae	149½	144¼
Salomon Inc	57½	56⅞
Sara Lee Corp	44⅞	45
Schering Plough	51¼	51¼
Schlumberger	74⅞	73½
Seagram	38¼	38⅞
Sears Roebuck	61⅞	61¼
Shell Trans	43½	44
Sherwin Wlms	31⅞	31⅞
Silicon Graphics	29⅛	19½
Snap-On-Tools	40½	40¾
Southern Co	21¾	21⅞
Southtrust	45½	45½
Sprint Corp	49⅞	49¾
Stanley Works	46	45½
Sun Company	32½	33
Sun Microsys	46½	46½
Suntrust	62⅞	62⅞
Supervalu	40¼	40
Synovus Fin	28⅛	28½
Sysco Corp	38½	37⅞
TRW Inc	58½	58½
TIG Hldgs	37½	30½
Tandem Comp	28⅞	28⅞
Tandy Corp	50⅞	50½
Temple Inland	67⅞	67⅞
Tenet Healthcare	29⅞	30
Tenneco	47½	47⅞
Texaco	112½	111½
Texas Inst	117½	117¼
Texas Utilities	34	33⅞
Textron	68½	67½
Thermo Elect	33½	33⅞
Time Warner	53½	53⅛
Times-Mirror A	55⅞	55
Timken	34½	34⅞
Torchmark	79	79
Toys R Us	38½	37⅛
Transamerica	98⅞	96½
Travelers	71½	70⅞
Tribune	53⅛	54
UST Inc	28⅞	28½
UAL	76⅞	76⅞
US Inds	39⅞	39⅞
US West Comm	36½	36⅛
US West Media	21⅞	21¼
USAirways Group	32½	31
USX Marathon	30½	30⅞
Unicom	21½	21⅞
Unilever NV	218½	218½
Union Camp	58⅞	58⅞
Union Carbide	53	52½
Union Pacific	72	71⅞
Unisys Corp	9⅛	9⅛
USF&G Corp	25⅛	25½
United Tech	86⅛	85½
Unocal Corp	39	38⅞
VF Corp	87⅞	87½
Wal-Mart Stores	37½	37
Warner-Lambert	143½	141⅞
Waste Mngmt	30⅞	30½
Wells Fargo	267⅞	266½
Westinghouse El	30¼	30⅛
Weyerhaeuser	60⅞	60½
Whirlpool	68⅞	68⅞
Whitman	25⅞	25½
Winn Dixie	38½	38½
Witco Corp	48½	48
Woolworth	27½	27½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	74½	75½
Xerox	78½	78½
Xilinx Inc	48⅞	48½

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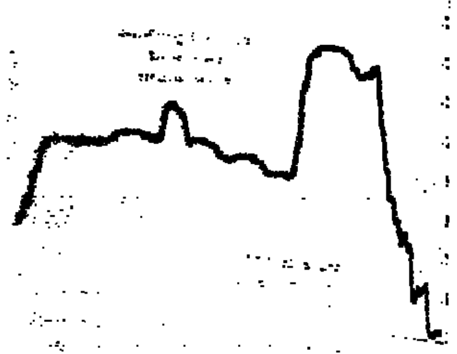
mail in the air


IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

HOME LOANS 32

Persistence pays off over a discount

WEEKEND MONEY

REFORM CLUB 35

Everyone has a say on change over pensions

THE TIMES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Caroline Merrell on the fallout in the wake of the carpetbaggers' defeat at the Nationwide

Savers and borrowers the winners

ALAN ADLER

The 150-year history of the building society movement took a surprise turn this week with the shock defeat of Michael Hardern and the other four speculators who had attempted to force the Nationwide to become a bank. Customers voted overwhelmingly against *the dissidents, effectively* saying no to £2,000 apiece windfalls.

The result of the poll is a reprieve for mutuality. Societies that had feared the fall of the Nationwide would hasten their demutualisation saw the vote as a sign that the public may like free shares but is fundamentally in favour of mutuality.

The Yorkshire Building Society reported that queues in its branches had suddenly shortened, as carpetbaggers stayed away to contemplate their next move.

However, the wave of conversions that has changed the face of the mutual movement has not necessarily ceased. The Birmingham Midshires, advised by JP Morgan, the merchant bank, is now discussing options for its future that could include becoming part of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The Nationwide, as revealed by *The Times*, was itself in talks with the newly converted Alliance & Leicester, which would have emerged as a white knight bidder if Mr Hardern had won the day.

The focus has now shifted *from windfalls to deals for* savers and borrowers as the rate war between the mutuals and the banks has finally begun in earnest. At present, it is not clear who will be the winner. Rates are still in a flux, following the most recent base rate rise, and some institutions are yet to announce their new savings offers. It is also not clear who will provide the best long-term value, if the struggle claims a victor. But, at present, the mutuals have the edge.

In the month of June, £1.3 billion of new savings were attracted to the Nationwide, *which has slightly better rates* than many of the recently converted building societies. Although much of this money was from "carpetbaggers" hoping to benefit if the Nationwide was forced to convert, some of the money was also from savers who were disaffected by the low rates offered by the converting societies.

Simon Price, a banking analyst from Merrill Lynch, claims that the public is still apathetic about moving money to chase rates, and he believes that the converted societies and the banks have the muscle to put the squeeze on the building societies. "The slightly better savings rates offered by the mutuals only amount to around £30 a year on an average balance of £3,000."

He claimed that the high cost base of the Nationwide would put it at a disadvantage in any ensuing price war. "The Nationwide has a 30 per cent *cost base, which is much* higher than the banks and the other converting societies."

He believes that the Halifax and the others could cut mortgage rates and increase savings rates, forcing the Nationwide and the other mutuals in to a price war, which he claims the mutuals would lose. "They cannot make a loss," he pointed out.

Although the savings on investing in a mutual may *take a long time to match any* windfall from conversion, lower variable mortgage rates can provide much bigger savings. For instance, a 1 per cent reduction over the entire term of a 25-year £50,000 repayment loan at today's interest rates would reduce the costs by £9,000 — far outweighing any windfall gains.

According to Brian Davis, Nationwide chief executive, since the society launched its package of mutual benefits a year ago, its variable rate has been between 0.35 per cent and 0.6 per cent cheaper than the rate offered by the Halifax. This would represent a total reduction of between £3,000 and £5,000.

Bradford & Bingley, another staunchly mutual society, offers a variable loan rate of 7.7 per cent, 0.5 per cent less than the Halifax.

The claim by mutuals that they offer better savings rates than the banks and converted *building societies is not en*tirely valid. Some of the converted building societies do offer best buys on some products. In any case, many of the banks and building societies are planning to put up their savings rates at the beginning of next month. The size of the rises will be announced on Monday.

For instance, Barclays will pay interest of 5.1 per cent on its instant access account — a *sum of £5,000 would attract* just over £274.26 interest over one year. The equivalent amount with the Nationwide would attract £320 interest a year, a rate of 6.4 per cent. However, Barclays does pay more than Birmingham Midshires, its postal account pays 4.7 per cent.

The Alliance & Leicester pays 5.7 per cent interest per year — £285 a year interest on a £5,000 saving, £35 less than the Nationwide.

However, Bradford & Bingley pays slightly less, at 5.6 per cent, than Alliance & Leicester on its postal account. While Abbey National, which floated eight years ago, pays an interest rate of 6.85 per cent on its postal account on balances of £5,000. Annual interest payments are equivalent to £357 — £37 more than the Nationwide.

On longer-notice accounts, such as 60-Day notice accounts, the rates are slightly in favour of the mutuals. Nationwide and Bradford & Bingley pay 5 and 5.25 per cent on these accounts, while Woolwich, Barclays and Halifax pay 4.25, 4.15 and 4.85 per cent, respectively.

However, *none of these* accounts appears in the *Moneyfacts* recommended list of best buys. The monthly magazine recommends accounts from Nottingham Building Society, Irish Permanent and Scarborough — all of which are mutuals.

> ❛ The rate war between the mutuals and banks has begun in earnest ❜

WEEKEND MONEY is edited by Anne Ashworth

What the butler failed to see

The result of the Nationwide vote, a resounding rejection of windfalls, was the culmination of one of the most bizarre episodes in building society history. In the recent wave of demutualisations, there has never been a vote against a payout.

But, as customers who have contacted *The Times* have pointed out, the Nationwide case was different. For these savers, Michael Hardern, a freelance butler, said to be fond of conversing with an imaginary cat, was patently ill-qualified to become a director of an institution with £40 billion-worth of assets. His eccentric demeanour acted to deter customers who were not opposed in principle to a demutualisation. One saver remarked: "He simply did not have the qualifications for the job."

The vigorous campaign against Mr Hardern, waged at branch level, swayed others to support the Nationwide board, although some customers found this approach intrusive.

Martin Rands, a Nationwide saver from Bristol, is one of those who believes that the society emerged triumphant from the vote not because it had put forward strong arguments in favour of mutuality but because Mr Hardern and his fellow dissidents failed to inspire respect.

A City fund manager commented: "Mr Hardern's behaviour did not merit a position on the board of any company." Another customer, *who has his £5,000 life* savings with the society, echoed the same view, saying: "I did not want Mr Hardern or any of the dissidents to have a say in the running of an organisation that looks after my money."

These savers, like many others, think that the Nationwide is not guaranteed to remain a mutual. Mr Rands suspects that the society could yield to a bid approach that met with the approval of the Nationwide board. He reminded other members that the Nationwide was not necessarily a champion of mutuality as it had previously discussed the possibility of conversion during its unsuccessful takeover discussions *with National & Provincial*.

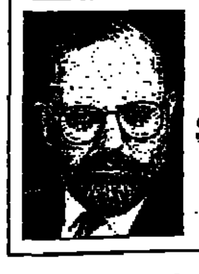
Mr Rands questions for how long the Nationwide can continue to offer lower mortgage rates and higher returns for savers. But for others, these were the best reasons for saying no to conversion. Terry Price, a long-standing Nationwide borrower and saver, commented: "A windfall now is likely to be paid for in the future. Mutuals need to satisfy their members, unlike those societies that have became banks which must take into account the needs and aspirations of their shareholders."

Piers Elias, from Guisborough, Cleveland, said: "Since most people with savings also have a mortgage, when will it dawn on them that the new banks will be able to recoup the value of the free handouts by increasing mortgage rates? For example, an extra 0.2 per cent added to the mortgage rate will cost a borrower with a £30,000 *mortgage £1,500 over 25* years."

ANNE ASHWORTH

Battle of the shares bulge

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Stock markets look resigned to a torrid summer and autumn of indecision, especially in Britain. That is the way with the final phase of a long bull market. The main analytical influences on share prices — profit prospects and short-term interest rates — seem to be getting worse but the economy is booming and the force of momentum is still with the buyers.

UK institutional investors are loath to put more money into London shares, according to the Merrill Lynch monthly survey, which covers fund managers responsible for a vast £1,300 billion. But they have been chary for most of the past 18 months, while share prices kept surging. When they returned briefly to heavy buying last autumn, there was an element of admitting defeat.

These same investors have been more bearish about Wall Street for much longer, and equally mistakenly. A big plurality took a dim three-month view of London share prices after the Budget, but they remained far more pessimistic about New York on a one-year view.

Fund managers have proved too cautious in the recent past. An index-tracking fund should have done better. Their reasoning still makes sense. Whichever London market index you choose, it is likely to show shares selling on average at more than 18 times earnings. That is an historically high valuation, implying sharp recovery or growth in profits. Yet profit expectations are falling sharply. Not long ago, those fund managers expected earnings per share to grow an average 10 per cent this year. Now they expect 7.7 per cent. As recently as June, fund managers expected *1998 earnings to grow by almost 8 per* cent and dividends by more than 7 per cent. Now the average expects earnings to grow a modest 6.8 per cent and dividends by 6.5 per cent.

These forecasts may prove wrong. The rising pound is certainly making life harder for top exporters, such as ICI and Glaxo Wellcome, and groups with big overseas interests, such as BAT Industries or BTR. But ICI's tumbling profits are no longer typical. Top manufacturers, such as British Steel or LucasVarity, have a modest presence in the blue chip FTSE 100 share index since the upsurge of banks, privatised utilities, insurance and media groups. For groups with overseas holdings, rather than those competing on price with foreign firms, much of the currency effect will be a once-for-all fall in overseas profits translated into sterling.

Aside from the individual sterling effect, most economists still forecast much lower economic growth next year as higher base rates bite. Thankfully, there remains a strong chance of managing this "downturn into normal growth" without the usual slide into recession.

Rising interest rates make shares less attractive and cash more attractive to investors. Pressure is mounting on the Bank of England not to rush to raise base rates that extra quarter point to 7 per cent. The betting remains that rates will be near or above 7 per cent for the next 12 months, if not more. That makes cash look a good home for new savings.

For shares to fall back decisively, that feeling would have to be more widely shared. *Short-term interest* rates may be rising in Britain, but definitely not on the Continent. In America, the latest hints from the Federal Reserve suggest no further quick rise is needed there because productivity growth is still keeping up with spending. That gave the Dow-Jones average another boost above 8,000. One respected commentator now argues that US shares are more statistically overblown than at any time since 1929 or 1987. There is still no interest rate trigger for a break in prices.

In London, prices of the leading stocks are now being driven by foreign buying, most recently from the Continent rather than America. As global investors concentrate on the top stocks in each market, London blue chips are carried along with the international tide, even though that conflicts with local conditions. London could become the most exposed market of all if and when that tide turns.

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Nearly half a million people in Britain splashed out on a new car last August hoping to be the first with a P-reg on the roads. A year later, and the P-reg is passé. If you must be in with the in-crowd, but cannot stretch to an R-reg, banks and finance companies will oblige.

Anyone arranging finances for an R-registration car should study carefully the terms of the car loan deal (see also Car 97, page 5) and calculate exactly what the monthly payments will be over the loan period. The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is one guide to the true cost of the loan but does not give the full picture. You should also check the following points.

■ Ask whether you will be charged for missed payments and if you are allowed to pay off your loan early. Request a figure showing how much you will be paying in total.

■ Some deals (for example, Sainsbury's) may offer lower APRs and payment breaks or holidays. However, the overall repayable amount on deals such as this may actually be greater than that for a loan of the same size but with a higher APR. This is because the repayment period on the higher APR loan does not include a payment break and is thus shorter.

■ Look at the cost of repayment protection insurance, as this may not be included in the APR and carefully read the small print. The cover may not be as extensive as you think.

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First Direct 0800 242424	1k-15k	114.82	101.31	13.9%	A,D
Halifax Local Branch	500-10k	116.28	106.39	15.9%	1 yr free membership of Green Flag National Breakdown B,K,U
NatWest Bank Local Branch	500-Neg	121.65	105.05	16.9%	50% disc on Green Flag Nat Brkdwn for 1 yr D

UNSECURED LOANS FOR ANY GENERAL PURCHASE

		Monthly payment £3k over 3 years			
	Loan (£)	with ins (£)	no ins (£)	APR %	Incentive
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Direct Line 0181 6809966	1k-15k	112.07	101.33	13.9	A,C
Nationwide BS Local Branch	500-15k	111.90	102.49	14.9	
Northern Rock BS 0345 421421	1k-10k	114.29	102.59	12.9	A,H
Royal Bank of Scotland Direct 0800 121125	2k-15k	114.95	101.45	14.0	

A=Direct Debit only; B=APRs reduced for Lenders Existing Borrowers and/or salary fed Current A/C holders; C=Minimum age 22 years. Holders of comprehensive motor insurance policy or lenders existing customers; D=Lenders Cheque A/C required; F=Account required with lender to repay loan; H=Higher rate applies if insurance not arranged; K=Higher rates apply if insurance not arranged; M=Higher rates apply for non-members. AA membership available at time of loan; U=Lenders existing customers only. *Source: MoneyFacts*

SIMON SCHLUTER

Shadow cast over Pep mortgages

Certain parts of the mortgage industry have been treading on eggshells since the Budget. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, said the personal equity plan (Pep) would have a doubtful future after April 1999, when a significant tax break on dividends would be withdrawn.

He added: "By this time, the introduction of individual savings accounts will ensure that individuals have the opportunity to continue to be able to save with tax advantages."

The clouded future of Peps poses serious questions for mortgage deals that use them as a repayment vehicle.

Pep mortgages are similar to endowment mortgages, in that the borrower pays interest and then makes a contribution into a savings vehicle, in this case a Pep, to eventually pay off the principal amount borrowed.

The advantages over endowments include lower charges, flexibility — payments can be stopped and started — and the superior tax breaks. The main disadvantage is that any investment gains are not "locked in", unlike the more conservative endowment policy. There is a risk that a Pep's value might be eroded, which could leave the borrower without the means to repay the loan fully. Borrowers also need life assurance.

The Budget announcement hits Pep mortgages because there is no guarantee that the individual savings accounts, announced by Mr Brown as the Government's favoured future savings scheme, will give tax relief at the same rate.

There are also no guarantees that all cash accumulated under Pep schemes will be allowed to "roll over" tax-free into the new accounts.

Amid fears that Pep providers may be walking into a future scandal by continuing to sell amid such uncertainty, the Association of Unit Trust and Investment Funds (Autif) wrote to member firms last week. It said customers should be told that "the Government's policy towards savings and investment is unclear" and that "Peps are likely to cease to exist" before they buy.

The Pep tax change contained in the Budget, scheduled to come into force in April 1999, could cost a typical £50,000 Pep mortgage-holder an extra £7 a month. But this assumes they will have no ability to transfer the Pep into an individual savings accounts. This is unlikely. If there is a facility to "roll over" these Pep gains for continued tax benefits, the amounts so far accumulated in a Pep mortgage plan is unlikely to be above the threshold either.

Since the Autif warning was issued, Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, told a questioner in the Commons: "I can confirm that the savings account will certainly be as attractive [as Tessas and Peps]." Having reassured middle England, she then added that the Government aims to make the benefits even greater than before for lower income groups.

Autif has no power to compel providers of Pep mortgages to tell would-be borrowers that there is a major change.

The Halifax, one of the biggest players in this market, does not require sales staff to tell potential borrowers of the likely changes. Legal & General, one of the worst offenders in sorting out its share of the bad advice that created the pension mis-selling scandal, says its staff must tell customers of the possible disruption.

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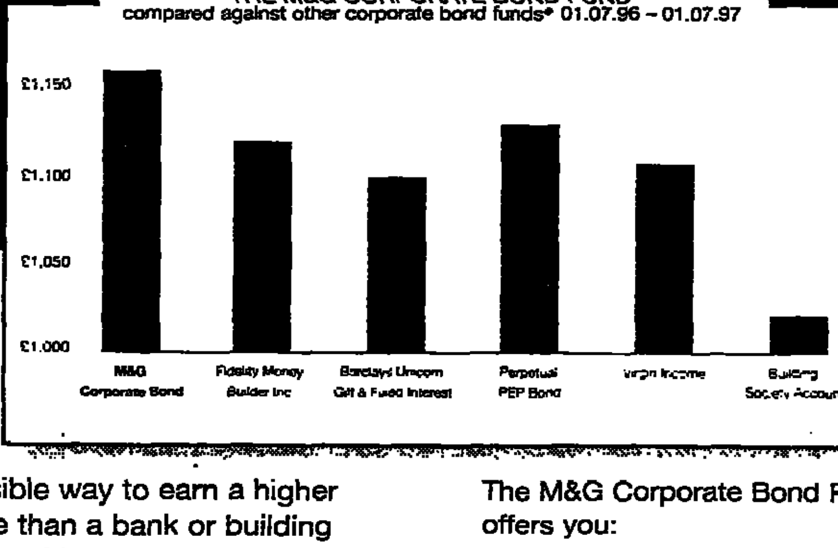

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Nationwide heads for Hamburger Hill

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

There was a slightly distasteful triumphalism in the pronouncements of directors after the Nationwide vote. Before setting off to celebrate at Planet Hollywood, the hamburger restaurant, perhaps chosen as the one place where they could be sure of not being served by Michael Hardern, the board proclaimed that the victory was an endorsement of their strategy.

Customers saw the issue rather differently. Many were willing to forge windfalls to restrain the unconventional Mr Hardern. They considered that they were postponing a payout, rather than permanently rejecting demutualisation. They will now be hoping for some tangible recompense for their loyalty.

The management of these expectations is now the most difficult task facing the Nationwide. As the euphoria subsides, directors should now be realising that a struggle lies ahead between the mutuals and the banks, including the recently converted societies. Here films starring those Planet Hollywood backers Arnie Schwarzenegger and Sylvester Stallone could *serve as educational* videos. There will be no special effects and shootings in the rate war between the mutuals and the banks. *But passions will run high.*

There is a presumption, at present, that the mutuals can both successfully undercut bank mortgage rates and pay higher rates to savers. But a few City observers believe the Halifax would be prepared to outspend the competition, if its market shares were under threat. This could cause societies to seek refuge in takeovers.

*Some will argue that such predic*tions smack of vested interests, as takeover deals mean fat fees for City firms. However, the Halifax's determination to retain its dominance must never be discounted.

Those who wish to see the bank v building society struggle contain some thrilling moments should be aware that the main weapon of both protagonists is customer apathy. Most borrowers, in particular, never question the rates they pay. But those who threaten to take their business elsewhere, can be rewarded (see page 32). This is one way in which customers can ensure that they are the winners of these hostilities.

Pressure point

Just when you thought life insurance companies could sink no lower, Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary, reveals that some are putting *customers under* "unacceptable pressure" to agree compensation for bad pensions advice. The companies wish to settle cases quickly to avoid further censure from the Minister. Mrs Liddell should now oblige all those caught out in such behaviour to pay for an independent actuary to check whether sums offered are fair.

Uncorking with investment

Conal Gregory on the growing value of corkscrews

As you open a bottle of some refreshing summer vintage, it is unlikely that you will you view the corkscrew as anything more than a utensil. But collectors are beginning to think differently. They are buying interesting, period *corkscrews not for their func*tional use but for investment. They are also fascinated by the multiplicity of designs, mechanisms and materials. Corkscrews have been made all shapes and sizes, including scantily clad ladies.

This variety was demonstrated in the collection built up by Doctor Bernard Watney, much of which was sold in May at Christie's. It included an 18th-century plier-type corkscrew which made £3,220, against £800-£900 five years ago. In the same sale, an early to mid 18th-century silver pocket corkscrew with a double scroll swivel handle, *engraved 1743 and carrying an* inscription from the Queen in 1910 realised £18,400.

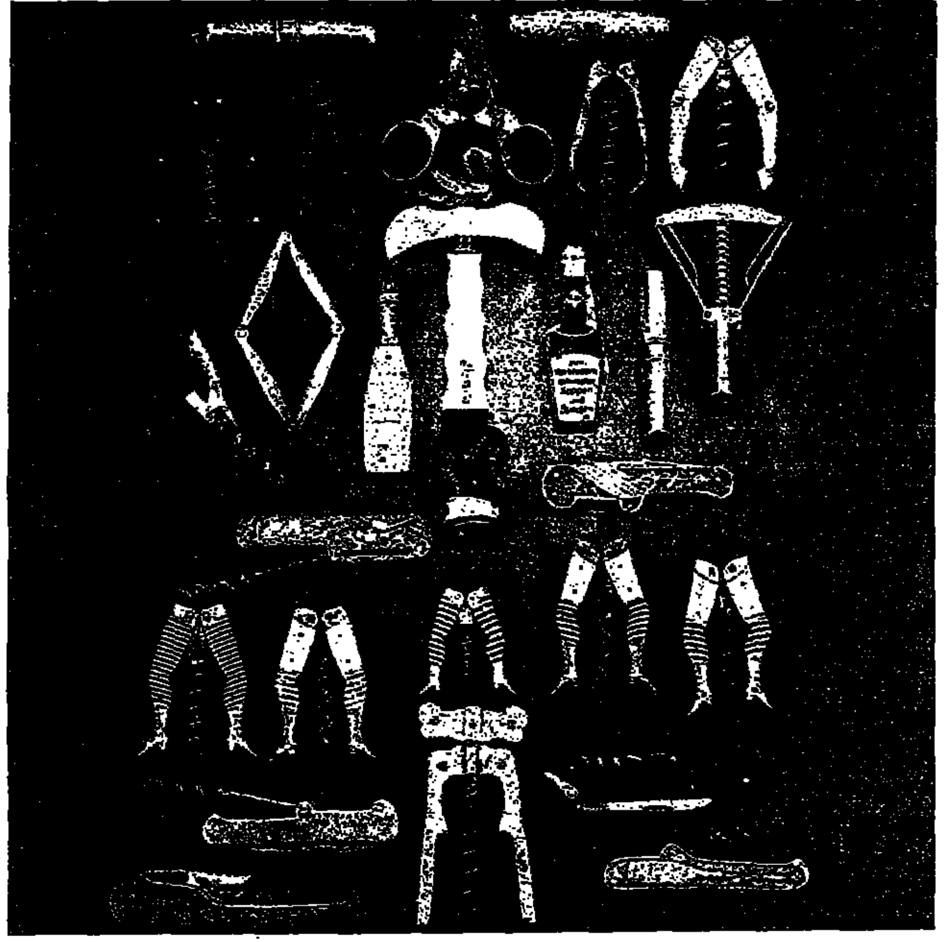
For those of more modest means, an old corkscrew need cost only £30-£40, according to Bristol dealer Robin Butler. This is for a "T-bar" type implement where the helix (the worm which penetrates the cork) *should have no uninten*tional bends *and have a good* point. Aspiring collectors should watch out for fakes which are being more common, with many 18th-century metal examples being copied. One tell-tale sign is the thread which is too sharp on copies. Genuine 18th-century cork*screw ones were hand-cut.*

On August 6, Christie's, South Kensington is to auction a collection built up by two German enthusiasts. It includes an English Charles Hull 1864 patent Royal Club corkscrew which is expected to make £2,000-£2,500. In 1992 this *would have sold for* £650-£700. Two years later, the price had risen to £1,500. This is the first example of a single post frame corkscrew. One of the top names in English corkscrews is Thomason. A double-action example with turned bone handle and *brush, complete with the royal* coat of arms badge marked *Ne Plus Ultra* with wire helix should make £300, up from £100-£150 five years ago, says auctioneer Dennis Cox.

An animal depicted or forming part of the handle can markedly raise the value of the implement. A Thomason-type, with a snake handle in gilded *bronze, should make* £2,000-£2,500, up from £1,200-£1,500 only five years ago.

Novelty examples, such as those modelled on the female form, are also sought after. Nineteenth-century German-made folding legs corkscrews with coloured celluloid stockings and nickel thigh tops and boots with a central worm can make £300 plus, up from £150 five years ago.

*English 19th-century nar*row-rack corkscrews with turned bone handles, referred to as King's screws, usually carry a brush for cleaning the top of the bottle before pouring. For this make in good condition, you can expect to pay £350-£400, up from £200-£250 five years ago. A named and dated example — such as *Robert Jones & Sons of Birm*ingham from 1840 — can reach £800-£1,000 at auction, up from £550-£600 in 1992.



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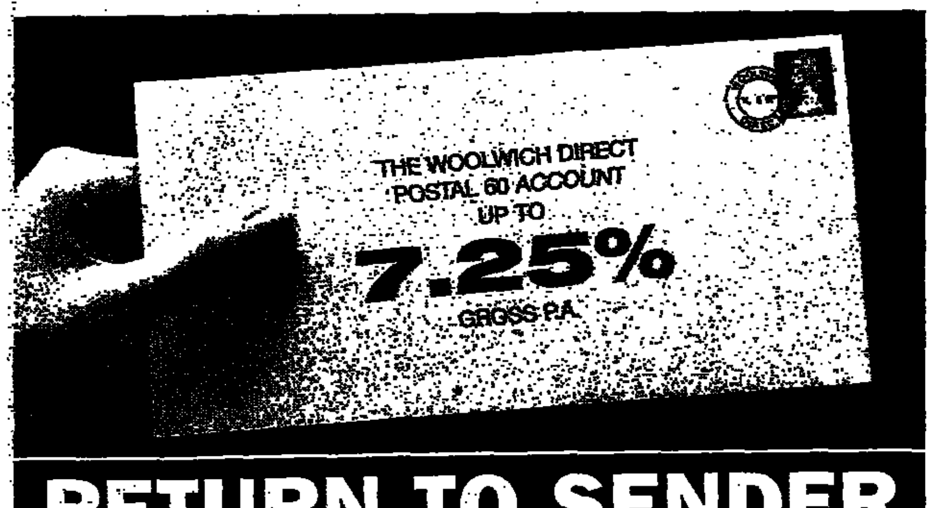

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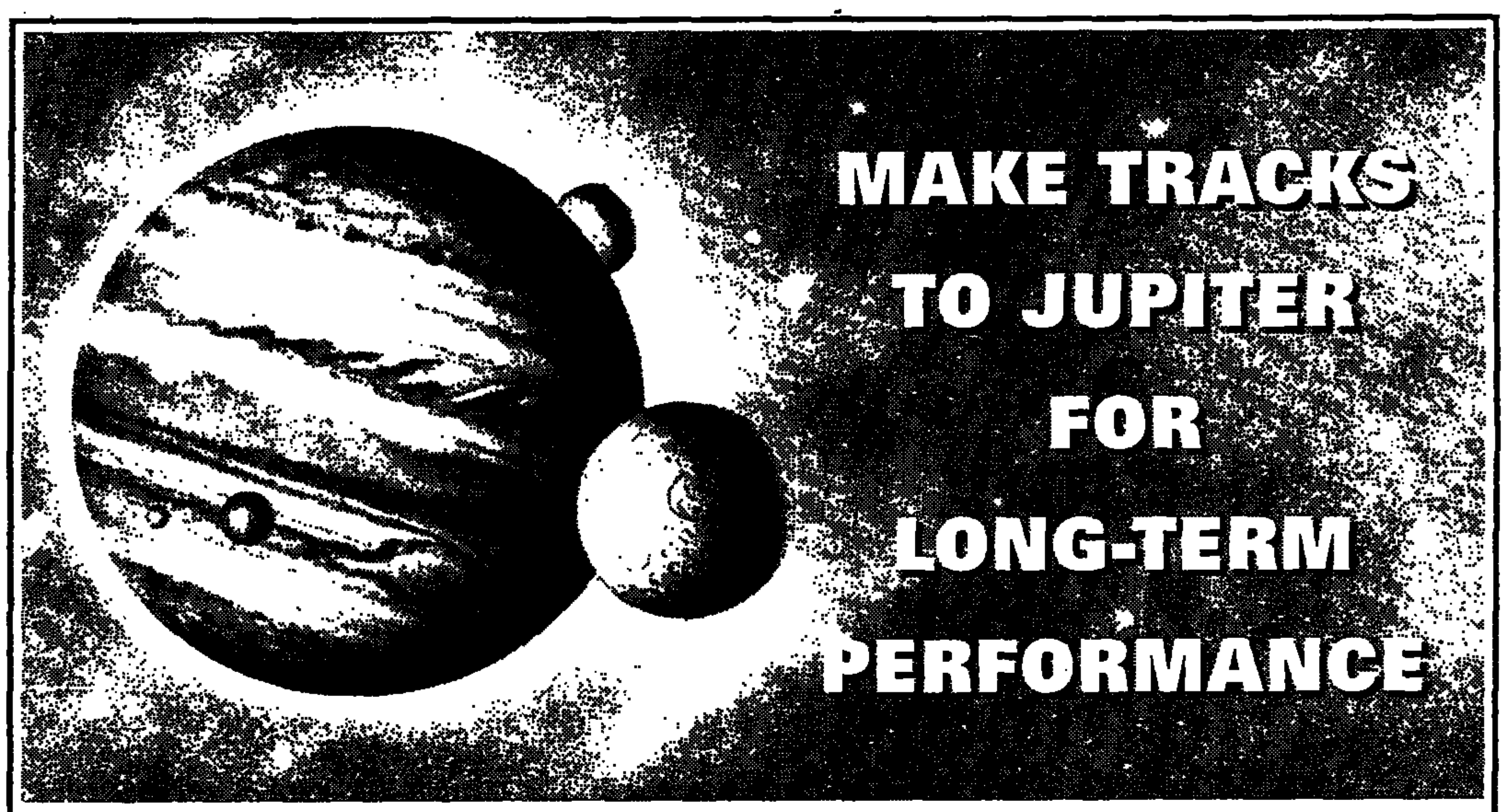

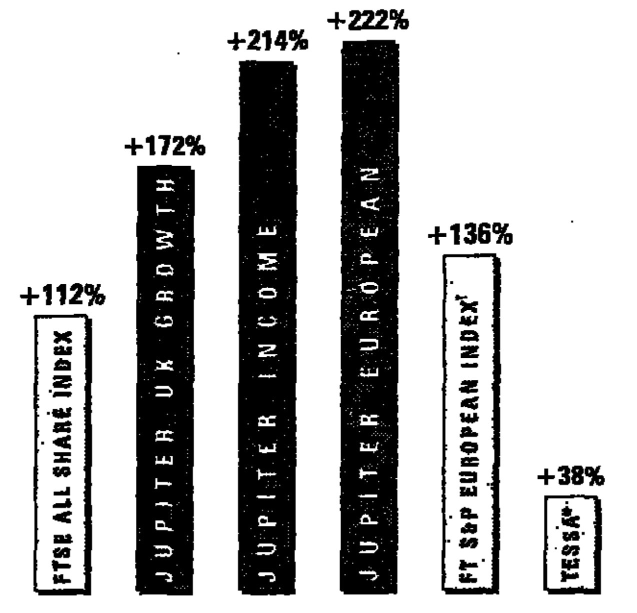

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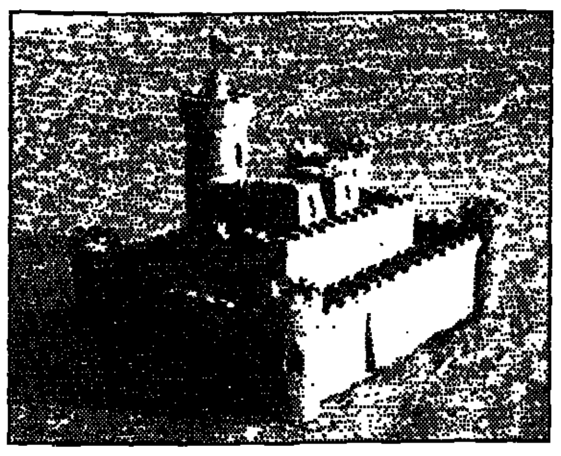

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Shop around for a new deal

Gavin Lumsden offers guidance on rearranging mortgage loans to homeowners not planning to move

Thousands of disenchanted mortgage borrowers are taking the opportunity presented by the flotations of their building societies to look elsewhere for better deals.

As interest rates continue to rise homeowners have felt under increasing pressure to improve the terms of their loans even though they are not moving house. Lenders, however, are reluctant to offer existing customers the snazzy deals used to attract new borrowers.

Remortgaging is difficult at the best of times, but if you are waiting for a windfall it is impossible. Borrowers with the Alliance & Leicester and the Halifax, for instance, who originally took out good fixed-interest mortgages, saw the term of the offer expire, but had to stick with relatively unattractive variable rates to qualify for their handouts.

For some, the wait may not have been worth it. The fixed deals they could have got might have saved them more than their free shares were worth.

In spite of this pent-up demand for a good deal, neither lender is doing much to retain their loyalty now, offering only a limited range of options to borrowers who are not actually buying a new home.

Although not keen to publicise it, Alliance & Leicester will offer existing borrowers a two-year mortgage fixed at 5.95 per cent. However, the chances of getting it are small as it is available only to borrowers of three or more years standing who have met stringent lending criteria. The Halifax is worse. Its two-year fix is set at 7.5 per cent and its five-year at 8.25 per cent. Its three-year 0.9 per cent discount off its new variable rate of 8.2 per cent hardly sets the world alight.

However, this is what Chris Clayton, a supply manager at a pharmaceuticals company in Kent, was offered when he went back to the Halifax when his three-year 1.5 per cent discount ran out this month. Unimpressed, Mr Clayton sought advice and was attracted to National Counties Building Society at Epsom, Surrey. The society offers a two-year fees-paid 1.5 per cent discount off its variable rate, currently at 7.79 per cent. This is just over 1 per cent less than Halifax's discount and, on Mr Clayton's £85,000 mortgage, represents a monthly saving of £131.48 compared with its standard variable rate of 8.3 per cent.

Because Mr Clayton and his wife, Jane, had just received 700 windfall Halifax shares, now worth £5,327, he felt the new bank deserved a second chance. His action shows what you can succeed if you are persistent. Halifax finally upped its discount to 1.3 per cent. "This was more in the ballpark of what I wanted. Had they been upfront and offered it to me first time I would have taken it. It doesn't show a very customer-focused attitude."

This indifference to current customers is repeated elsewhere. A reader of *The Times*, a mother of two in Leeds, has given up trying to persuade Northern Rock, which floats on the stock exchange in October, to remortgage her house on decent terms.

With her husband she took out a 5.95 per cent three-year fixed loan in 1994. When this came to an end she told the building society she wanted to switch to its direct rate. Although a variable rate, it promises to always undercut the four main lenders and is currently set at 6.09 per cent.

She is currently paying the lender's standard variable rate of 8.2 per cent. Northern Rock refused, even though she wanted to borrow £35,000, just half the value of her home and had maintained a good payment record. Finally, after numerous calls and letters, the society made her an offer: a three-year fixed mortgage at 7.5 per cent with a three-year tie in at variable rate plus an arrangement fee. "They can forget it. As soon as I get my shares I'm transferring to Bradford & Bingley Direct which has a variable rate of 6.99 per cent with no tie-in."

A spokesman for Northern Rock claimed it was not possible to offer borrowers deals that were consistently below standard variable rates. To do so would be uneconomic and unfair to other borrowers, he said.

Smaller lenders tend to offer better deals. National Counties is good, but only lends to people in England and Wales seeking less than 70 per cent of the value of their home. The Portman Building Society is more accessible, offering a two-year fixed rate of 6.99 per cent. This has no redemption penalties and is available for those borrowing up to 90 per cent LTV (loan to value).

MIKE WALKER

Jane and Chris Clayton, of Alton, Hampshire, found that persistence paid off in their dealing with the Halifax

WHAT EXPERTS SAY

For longer protection, Ray Boulger, of John Charcol, suggests deals that set a ceiling over which the interest rate will not rise, although many will charge a six-month redemption penalty if you try to leave early. The best five-year capped deals are from the Coventry Building Society (7.6 per cent) and Yorkshire and Skipton building societies (7.99 per cent). The Skipton also offers a "cap and collar" deal that will keep its rate between 6.75 and 8.49 per cent for ten years.

Patrick Bunton, of London & Country Mortgages, says: "A lot of people think remortgaging involves all the hassle of the first sale when all it is is a transfer to another lender. Ask your existing lender what they will offer and then compare it with what is available on the market." However, there are charges and hidden expenses. Legal fees, arrangement fees, valuations fees, the cost of a basic survey and a land registry search plus mortgage indemnity premiums and commission to a broker can push the bill towards £3,000 for a £100,000 mortgage. However, many lenders will waive some or all of these fees. If you have built up the equity in your home, mortgage indemnity will not be charged.

If the housing market continues to recover and the volume of transactions rises another 30 per cent, Mr Bunton says lenders of all sizes could well withdraw their offers and rely solely on home-buyers for their profits. This could benefit borrowers if it also meant the demise of extended redemption penalties.

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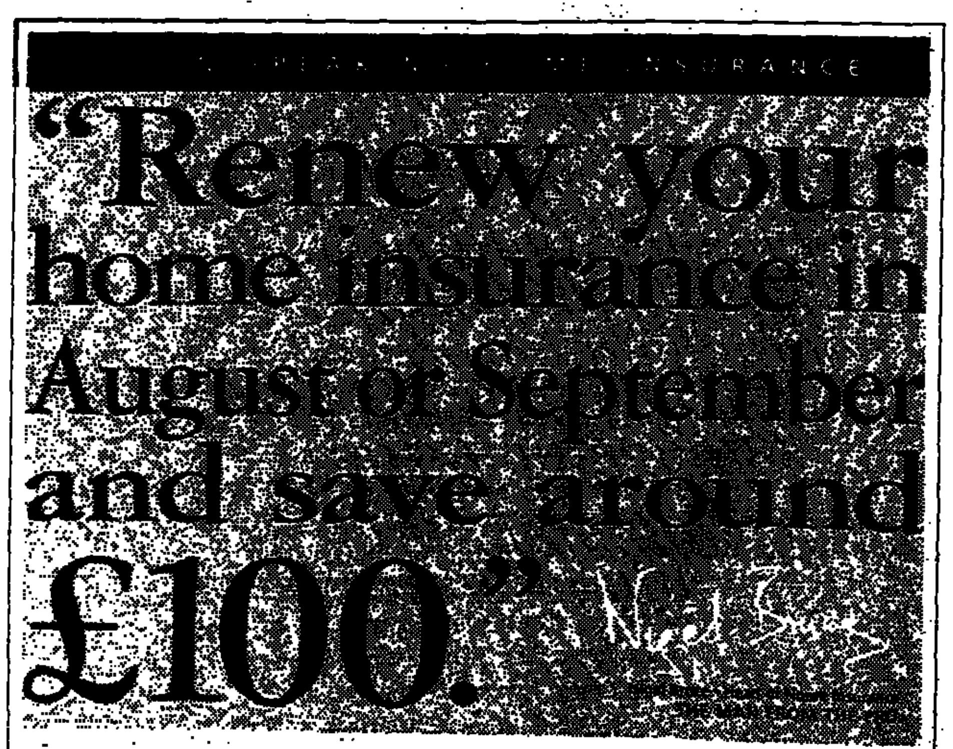
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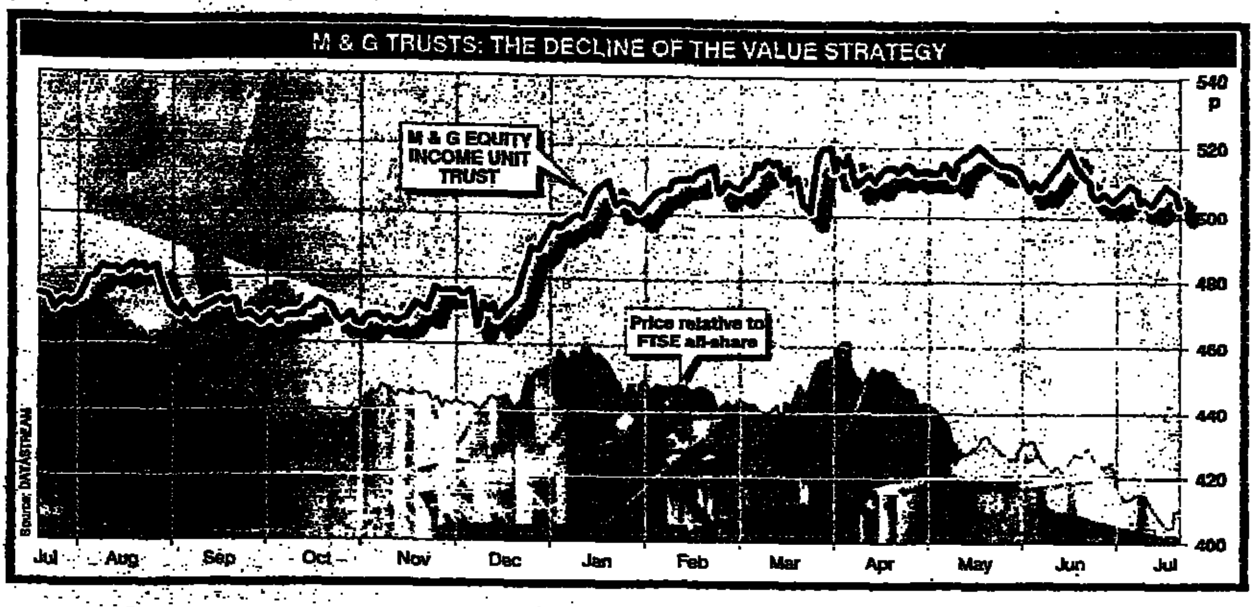
Nathan Yates explains why M&G must change its outlook



A strategy of poor value for investors

Investors in funds with a "value" approach have hit hard times, and few more so than the 700,000 customers of M&G, the archetypal value investment house. Britain's largest Pep manager has seen its funds plummet in the performance tables, and analysts think M&G customers will take a further beating in the climate created by Gordon Brown's first Budget.

The principle of value investing is to select shares on price, not growth potential. In seeking his bargains, the value fund manager is often drawn to high-yielding companies that offer large dividends for minimum outlay. It is an approach that conflicts with the Government's pro-growth, long-term view of investment.

Returns on value funds have suffered both before and after the general election. M&G in particular has seen a spectacular slump in the performance of its UK equity funds. Its £1 billion Midland & General unit trust has fallen 13.15 per cent in the past year, and now ranks 1,396th out of all 1,533 unit trusts over the same period. Even across a three-year span, this trust ranks at 1,127th, and most M&G UK equity funds conform to the same pattern of accelerating decline. The Equity Income unit trust, for example, comes in at 1,045th over three years and 1,164th over one year.

With performances like these, M&G has been unable to retain its popularity, in spite of a television advertising campaign in spring starring Lord Lawson of Blaby, the former Conservative Chancellor. The recent launch of its High Income investment trust attracted just £20 million from investors, compared with £200 million the company would have expected a few years ago.

Few analysts doubt that the value approach is the main source of M&G's ills. Cheap, high-yielding shares, the mainstay of the value fund manager, have tended to underperform in recent years, and this trend is enhanced by Mr Brown's abolition of the 20 per cent dividend tax credit payable to pension funds. With dividends now less attractive to a large group of investors, high yielding shares are unlikely to break free from the doldrums. In addition, many of M&G's value stocks are in the manufacturing sector. Exports are of key importance to many manufacturers, and they are the chief victims of the growing strength of sterling. A strong pound makes British goods more expensive for foreign consumers.

TRUST WATCH

With events stacked against the value investor, M&G is under pressure to change its approach. Another bad year, and several M&G funds will look poor over a five-year period, this in the context of a record bull market. It is little wonder that many independent financial advisers (IFAs) have ceased recommending M&G funds to their clients. As one senior IFA put it: "Value funds are taking a hammering, and investors should pile out of M&G unless there are changes."

Many believe that unless M&G gives up on the value approach, the future will be bleak. "I hope M&G stick with the value approach, because that will send investors in our direction," said Michael Ashbridge of Save & Prosper, one of M&G's main competitors. "The only way they will get out of jail is to take a different line." John Shelley of Aberdeen Asset Management also claims M&G must alter its ways. "The value investor is in trouble, and cheap stocks are going to carry on getting cheaper. A good house like M&G should take the hint and make changes."

However, M&G claims its remaining customers will be rewarded for their patience. It is engaged in a complete overhaul of its strategy in the attempt to prevent a mass exodus. Inquiries by *The Times* have established that the company is recruiting a new investment development director to help to overcome current problems, and in September a radical remodelling of UK equity funds will be announced. Vivian Bazalgette, the man leading M&G's reforming drive, asks investors to keep faith.

M&G customers may not be pleased to learn that the company is determined to stick with the value approach. "There is absolutely no question of us backing down from our value stance," Mr Bazalgette says. "It has worked in the past, and it will work again. What matters is how we implement it." The text of Mr Bazalgette's package is likely to reveal a considerable shift away from the traditional definition of value investment. Mr. Bazalgette says M&G will no longer buy stocks purely on price, but will pay much closer attention to a company's quality. There will be less emphasis on high yielders in future.

So what becomes of the repossessed?

A QUESTION OF MONEY

What do you do if you are being harassed by creditors and know you will never be able to pay? Growing numbers of people are being faced with demands to pay back shortfalls they still owe on homes repossessed during the recession. Improvements in the job and property markets have galvanised many lenders to try to recover debts. At the same time a survey this week from the Society of Practitioners in Insolvency found that businesses owing money to the Inland Revenue or Customs & Excise were almost twice as likely to be made bankrupt as those with private sector creditors. But is bankruptcy the only way out? Here are some answers.

Q My house was repossessed five years ago and the lender sold it at a loss. Now it is demanding £80,000 that I have not got a hope of paying. Should I declare myself bankrupt?

A Bankruptcy is a serious move and you should see it as a last resort. You may be able to save the situation through negotiation. If you are receiving demands from your lender, do not ignore them. Lenders have up to 12 years to chase you for shortfalls and will demand money at regular intervals. The longer you resist the more expensive it will be because your arrears will mount up along with the lender's costs. Depending on your income, you may be able to come to an agreement to pay off at least part of your debt in regular instalments. The Bankruptcy Association (01482) 658701 also offers a negotiating service.

Q I have tried negotiating but my lender refuses to listen. The debt I owe is so big that I just want to get rid of it. As far as I can see, the only way is to declare myself bankrupt. What will this mean for me in practice?

A It is true that there will be no point pursuing you if you declare yourself bankrupt. The upside of going bankrupt is that you will be relieved of your debt. If you declare yourself bankrupt with unsecured debts of less than £20,000 your debts will be written off after two years. If one of your creditors declares you bankrupt, then your debt is written off after three years, regardless of how much you owe. But you will not be able to have more than £250 credit until you are discharged. You will almost certainly find banks are reluctant to let you run a current account. You will be disbarred from holding public office as an MP, justice of the peace or school governor. Credit reference agencies can hold details of your bankruptcy for six years.

Q My business has collapsed and my lender is just one of my creditors. I have complex debts and do not want to declare myself bankrupt because of the stigma. Is there any other option?

A You may be able to negotiate an Individual Voluntary Agreement with your creditors, which will allow you to keep trading while repaying your debts. Under an IVA, you draw up a plan of repayment with creditors. The plan can only be implemented if 75 per cent of creditors (by value of what you owe them) approve it. IVAs normally only work if you have assets.

SARA MCCONNELL

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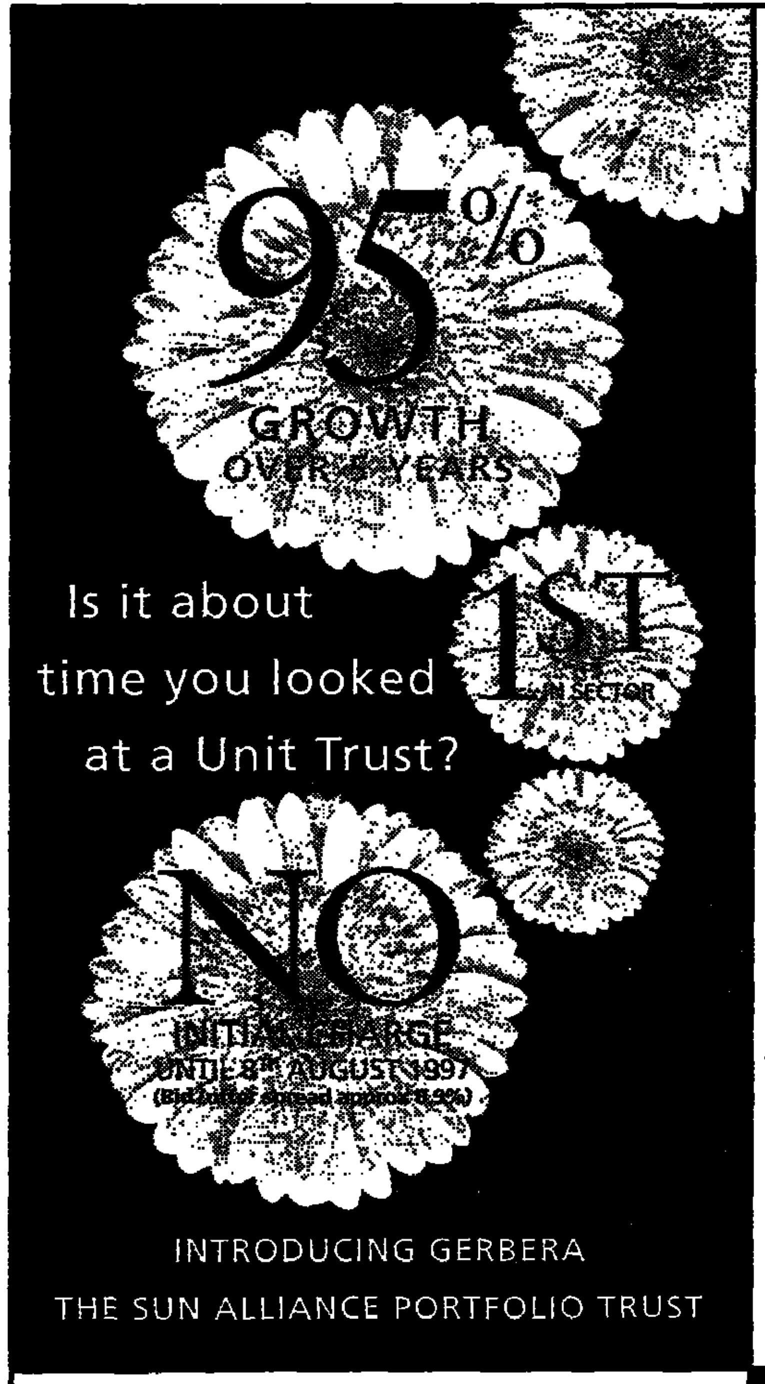
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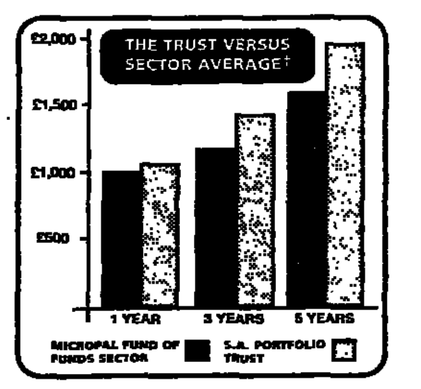

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Clerical Medical	5,507	54,839	235,363	B A A	B A B
General Accident	5,715	53,612	228,685	B A A	A X A
Norwich Union	5,500	52,500	225,000	B A A	B B A
NPI	5,747	53,618	222,240	B A B	B C C
Scottish Amicable	5,705	52,343	223,790	B A B	C B B
Sun Alliance	6,500	52,300	215,000	A+ A B	C C C
Scottish Widows	6,395	51,135	219,235	A B B	B C B
Commercial Union	5,574	49,707	225,809	B B A	X C C
Medical Sickness	6,280	46,300	247,000	A C A+	A+ B B
Standard Life	6,442	51,191	206,591	A B C	B B B
Scottish Mutual	6,381	48,812	208,576	A B C	B B A
Legal & General	5,550	52,055	205,845	B A C	C B C
CIS	5,074	50,657	230,540	C B A	A A X
Scottish Equitable	5,165	50,958	236,100	C B A	C C A
Royal Insurance	5,126	49,010	227,258	C B A	C C C-
Wesleyan Assurance	5,516	48,109	210,214	B B B	A A B
Eagle Star	4,692	52,279	224,234	C A B	A A+ A
Prudential	6,353	49,360	183,502	A B C-	A X X
National Mutual Life	5,138	48,643	220,896	C B B	C B B
Britannia Life	4,956	51,634	218,000	C B B	C C C-
Britannic Assurance	5,447	49,426	201,259	B B C	B X X
Scottish Life	4,883	50,433	218,825	C B B	B B B
NFU Mutual	4,955	50,958	212,543	C B B	B A B
Guardian Financial	5,284	49,885	196,279	B B C	X X X
Friends Provident	5,290	43,500	221,000	B C B	X C B
Royal London	5,359	48,991	193,999	B B C	B A A
Scottish Provident	5,280	49,600	197,000	B B C	B A B
Colonial	4,907	48,112	200,901	C B C	X X X
Sun Life	4,915	43,865	216,024	C C B	C- B B
RNPFN	4,800	31,170	235,435	C C- A	X A- A-
AXA Equity & Law	4,350	42,600	186,000	C- C- C-	C C A
Average	5,496	49,549	216,693		

Based on investment of £100 a month, starting at age 30.
x= data not supplied or not yet available
Investment funds are assumed to grow at 9 per cent a year

THE INDEPENDENT
12th OCTOBER 1996

Well they'd like to rate everyone. That's why last year the Office of Fair Trading recommended a rating method which would allow personal pensions to be assessed in a no-nonsense way.

Then in October The Independent enrolled John Chapman, the OFT official who pioneered this rating system, to analyse the pension plans offered by insurance companies. The results of that investigation are reprinted above.

Importantly, The Equitable's regular contribution with profits and unit-linked personal pension was the only one to be awarded the highest possible rating of A+ A+ A+ for its low charges.

John Chapman's pioneering methods for comparing performance between companies have been adopted by Money Marketing, the magazine for independent financial intermediaries, which asked actuaries at KPMG to carry out the detailed calculations for each company. Mr Chapman's analysis for The Independent uses Money Marketing's calculations.

Again the same method showed The Equitable's performance to be the highest rated for both with-profits and unit-linked plans.

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Sara McConnell unravels the complexities of your pension and decodes the jargon

Enough to make your head spin

Do you know how much state pension you will get? How much does your employer pay into your pension? Is your scheme defined benefits or defined contribution? Are you making additional voluntary contributions? What is Serps and are you contracted in or out? If this sort of question makes your head spin you are not alone. *Layers of legislation and years of* being a political football have made pensions absurdly complex and many people have only the vaguest idea *how their pension works. With the pension system now* facing its biggest overhaul in 50 years, here's how to get back to basics and get to grips with your pension.

Your pension comes from a number of sources, including the State, personal and company pensions.

■ **The State:** Throughout your working life, part of your compulsory National Insurance (NI) contribution goes towards building up entitlement to a *state* pension. There are two parts to the state pension, the **basic pension** and the **state earnings related pension (Serps)**. How much you get from the State depends on your NI contributions during your working life.

The maximum basic pension is currently £62.45 a week for a single person. Married women can get a pension of up to £37.35 a week but only if their husbands have worked full time and built up NI contributions for most of their working life. The basic pension is not means tested, but the maximum is paid only to men who have worked 44 years and women who have worked 39 years.

Serps, also funded by NI contributions, is linked to earnings and comes on top of the basic pension. If you retire before 2010 you will get a maximum of 25 per cent of the earnings over the best 20 years of your working life. If you retire after this you will get a maximum of 20 per cent of your average earnings.

But your NI contributions are not invested as they would be in a personal or company pension. They go straight out to pay today's pensions. This system will become unsustainable as fewer workers support more pensioners, which is one of the reasons the Government is reviewing the system.

The review's main aim is to cut the £31 billion annual pension bill and persuade, or compel, people to start personal pensions to top up the basic state pension.

■ **Personal pensions:** If you have been contributing to a personal pension (because you are self-employed or not in an employer's scheme) you will *receive an income from this on* top of the basic state pension. Some or all of the money invested in your personal pension may come from the State rather than directly from you if you have opted to contract out of Serps. This means that the part of your NI contribution (4.8 per cent of salary between *set limits) that would have gone* immediately to fund someone else's pension is instead paid into your personal pension and invested. On top of the invested NI contribution you can make regular contributions of your own. The idea is that you have your own pensions "pot".

What you get out depends on your contributions and the performance of your investment. But many existing pen*sion plans levy high charges* and have performed poorly. Debate is focusing on how best to persuade, or compel, people to put more into personal pensions, which should be revamped to make them simpler and cheaper.

The seven million people with personal pensions have been further disadvantaged by a change announced in the Budget that cuts the tax relief available to funds. Abolishing the ACT tax credit, as it is known in pension jargon, will cut investment returns on pension funds.

According to accountants, personal pension policyholders will have to pay, on average, an extra £190 a year in to their pensions to make up the difference.

You can contribute to a personal pension only if you are earning. You cannot pay into a personal pension at the same time as being a member of a company scheme, unless you are funding it from a *different source.*

■ **Company schemes:** These are not a central target of the overall pensions review, although there is talk of employers being made to contribute to a personal pension on your behalf if you do not want to join your employer's scheme.

If you are an employee the majority of your pension may come *from* company schemes to which you and/or your employer contribute. But not *all company schemes are structured* the same way.

Plans based on final salary are known in pensions jargon as **defined benefit** schemes. They guarantee to pay a proportion of your final salary for each year you work for a particular company. They are generally the best deal for highly paid, long-servers and less so if you move a lot.

But growing numbers of employers say such guarantees are too expensive. Instead they *operate schemes where your* pension is based on your contribution and that of your employer. This is a **defined contribution** or money-purchase scheme. This works more like a personal pension, where your final benefits depend on how well the contributions have been invested.

A variation on this theme is the **group personal pension**. *This is really little more* than a personal pension under an employer's umbrella. Unlike a *money-purchase* scheme you pay the set-up charges as well as taking the investment risk.

Company schemes have also been hit by the change to the dividend tax credit. Some employees may make up the difference, while others may restructure their schemes to be based on contributions.

■ **Additional voluntary contributions (AVCs):** *Part of your* pension income may come from AVCs you have made to top up your company scheme. Most AVC schemes are based on contributions, even if your main pension is based on salary. Employers must offer schemes but you can take out your own **free-standing AVC** if you prefer. You can have an AVC only if you are in a company pension scheme.

ANGUS MEWSE

Pensions back in the melting pot

The subject of pensions reform has been the object of a well-meaning game of pass the parcel this month. Industry organisations, such as the Association of British Insurers and *the National Association of Pension* Funds, both had their say in the run-up to the announcement by the Government that it was launching its own comprehensive, but fairly nebulous, review of the situation. The Office of Fair Trading followed this up with a *hard hitting* report on *unsuitability* of personal pensions for most savers. Not to be *outdone,* this week the Consumers' *Association unveiled its own "blue*print" for action.

Paradoxically, for an organisation committed to free choice, the Consumers' Association wants to compel people to contribute to their own pension schemes. It argues that people do this already through the state earnings related pensions scheme (Serps), the additional state scheme, which takes *around 5 per cent of people's wages. It is* proposing a personal retirement account for everybody in work who is not already a *member of a company* scheme, around half of the working population. Minimum contributions into this scheme would start at 10 per cent *and would be shared between* employees and employers. This is designed to give everyone 40 per cent of their final salary when they retire. Contributions would be collected at source by the Inland Revenue, or the Department of Social Security. Like the Pep, the PRA would be a tax-free wrapper which individuals would own. *The association says it would be* designed to give good value, be simple to understand, and most crucially of all, be portable when people change jobs.

Liddell: naming and shaming

For these reasons it is urging the Government not to let existing personal pension providers touch it with a barge pole. Sheila McKechnie, the CA's director, says these companies have lost the trust of the people and have failed to clean up their act *in the aftermath* of the mis-selling scandal. Millions of people are still awaiting compensation because *they were wrongly advised to leave, or* not to join, a company scheme between 1988 and 1994.

She should find a sympathetic ear in Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary, who has named and shamed 24 of the largest pension companies for their woeful lack of progress.

Another aspect which could find Government favour is the collective *investment funds into which the PRA* would invest. These would be industry-wide schemes and, the CA argues, run by mutual organisations such as building societies and trade unions.

GAVIN LUMSDEN

America leads the way with 401(k)

As governments around the world shift their focus from paternalistic pension plans — where the State or employer looks after you *in old age* — to schemes where employees take *more* control of their own future, *there will be more focus on the* 401(k), America's answer to defined contribution plans. It *will be one of the models* studied by ministers seeking to reform the UK system.

401 (k) schemes which take their name from a section of the US tax code have become very popular since their inception 15 years ago. About 80 per cent of eligible US employees participate in a 401(k) plan and their popularity is credited with contributing to the current stock market boom.

Their basic *operation will* be familiar to anyone with a company pension. Employees *decide how much of their pay* they want to put into in a pension, up to a set ceiling. The amount is deducted directly from pay before tax, so the contribution also reduces the employee's taxable income. The employer then makes a contribution — perhaps matching half of the employee's contribution up to 6 per cent of salary — and receives tax breaks for the expense.

The key difference between the 401(k) and existing UK pension schemes is control. In *the UK, the employer lumps* all the employee pension money together and invests it as a whole. With a 401(k) employees are offered a choice of funds for their pension money, allowing employees to tailor their retirement strategy to suit their own needs. For example, an employer may offer a choice of an aggressive fund with heavy exposure to the stock market, a balanced fund with some exposure to equities and some exposure to bonds, and a conservative fund where the *bulk of the investment is in* bonds and money markets. Employees can choose what *proportion of their pension* fund they want invested in the different funds on offer, and can change the balance.

The flexibility means that younger employees can invest their pension money for maximum growth, while an employee approaching retirement can shift their savings into funds weighted towards bonds to make sure the total on retirement day is not hurt by a stock *market reversal.*

The onus is on the em*ployer* to educate employees about the options, and to make sure the investment plans are sound and money managers capable. Another advantage of 401(k) savings is that they are portable. If you change jobs, you can leave your savings invested with your former employer and pay an administration fee, or you can switch to a 401(k) offered by your new employer. *If you leave emp*loyment altogether, you can shift the money into a 401(k) *run by an investment house.*

Taxation does not start until you reach retirement, when withdrawals are taxed as income. But there are penalties for taking money out of the fund before retirement.

KAREN ZAGOR

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Don't let advisers make a monkey of you

PETER TREVNOR

Iain Jenkins, editor of *City to Cities*, an airport magazine, is not a typical pensions saver (Caroline Merrell writes). A former financial journalist, he likes to think he knows a little about investing. He has bought a personal pension from Flemings, which claims to be low cost. He said: "The fact that you can invest the money in emerging markets attracted me. Cost was not an issue — the costs are higher than one imagines, when underlying costs of the investment trusts are taken into account."

He did not buy through a financial adviser, because he objects to paying commission. He said: "Charges eat into the performance of the funds." The Flemings product also allowed him to make his own investment decisions. Though he takes an active interest in managing his pension, he does not advocate this for everyone.

He is also critical of fund managers. "About 95 per cent of them underperform the market. You might as well get a tracking fund. A monkey throwing a dart at a list of shares could do better than most fund managers."

Time for fund managers to prove their value

The Budget cut will mean performance is all important, says **Caroline Merrell**

The performance of pension fund managers will become increasingly important over the next few years as more companies switch from offering pensions based on final salary to ones where the size of the pension is based on the contributions made and the performance of the particular fund manager. These latter plans are known as money-purchase schemes, or defined contribution schemes, in pensions jargon.

According to Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm, Gordon Brown's first Budget last month increased the pressure on pension schemes to switch from final salary to money purchase. The Chancellor cut the tax relief available to pensions, which means that many employers will have to increase their contributions to ensure that their liabilities are met. Those companies that cannot afford to fill the gap left by the abolition of the ACT tax credit, as it is known, will have to restructure their pension schemes.

Arthur Andersen's survey of 50 of the UK's biggest companies found that more than half were considering switching to money-purchase pensions. As the UK's biggest companies consider rearranging their schemes, the spotlight has now moved to the effectiveness of the pension fund management industry itself.

The Office of Fair Trading this month attacked pension fund managers for not producing returns that were better than the index. It wants the use of index-tracking funds to be extended so that pensions become cheaper and easier for the public to understand.

An index-tracking fund, as opposed to one that is actively managed, will simply buy the shares that comprise a particular index — be it the all-share or the FTSE 100, or the S&P Comp, an American index.

Tracking funds do away with the expensive services of fund managers who can earn hundreds of thousands of pounds. In spite of the high earnings of pension fund managers, some do not produce returns that are greater than an average investment in the index.

Many looking at their annual pensions statements may be wondering why their funds are only showing returns of a few per cent, when the all-share index has risen 13 per cent over the past six months, and the FTSE 100 has risen by nearly 18 per cent.

The recent dramatic rise in the UK index has helped the arguments of companies such as Virgin Direct, which offers cheap index-tracking pensions — an investment in a Virgin pension at launch in November would have risen 18 per cent.

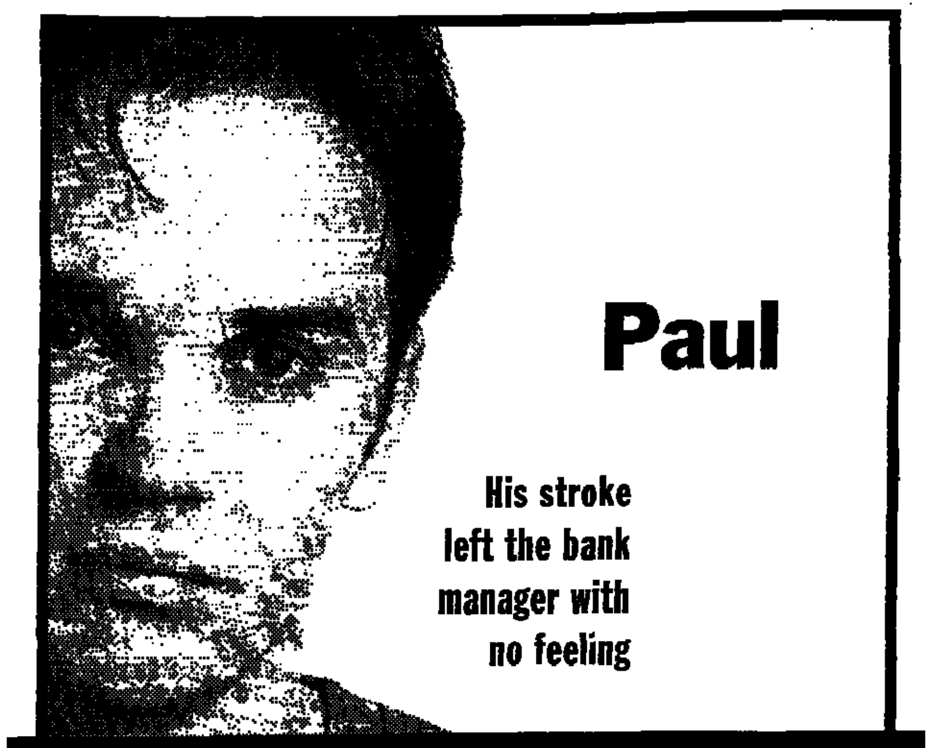
But the companies that are in favour of active fund management believe index tracking funds do have a place in pension fund investment, but they also believe the best returns come through active fund management.

Members of company pension schemes will find it very difficult to test this claim out, as comparative data on company pensions is very difficult to find. WM Company and CAPS, two statistics companies, analyse the performance of different pension fund managers. The results are available only to companies that subscribe to the service.

According to the WM Company, the average pension fund rose 11.4 per cent over the year to March 31. The best pension fund rose 14.7 per cent, while the worst rose 7.9 per cent. Even the best funds failed to match the index. WM Company says that about 53 per cent of pension assets are invested in UK equities, 21 per cent are invested in overseas equities, with the rest invested in a mix of UK and overseas bonds and gilts. On average, only 3.7 per cent of the total was invested in the US, the best-performing market of last year. Hardly a statistic in favour of the active fund managers.

Philip May, head of the pensions team at Prudential, said: "The thing about active fund management is that it adds flexibility.

The UK stock market may not always perform well, and pension funds need the option of being able to switch in to cash, or other better performing markets, he said.



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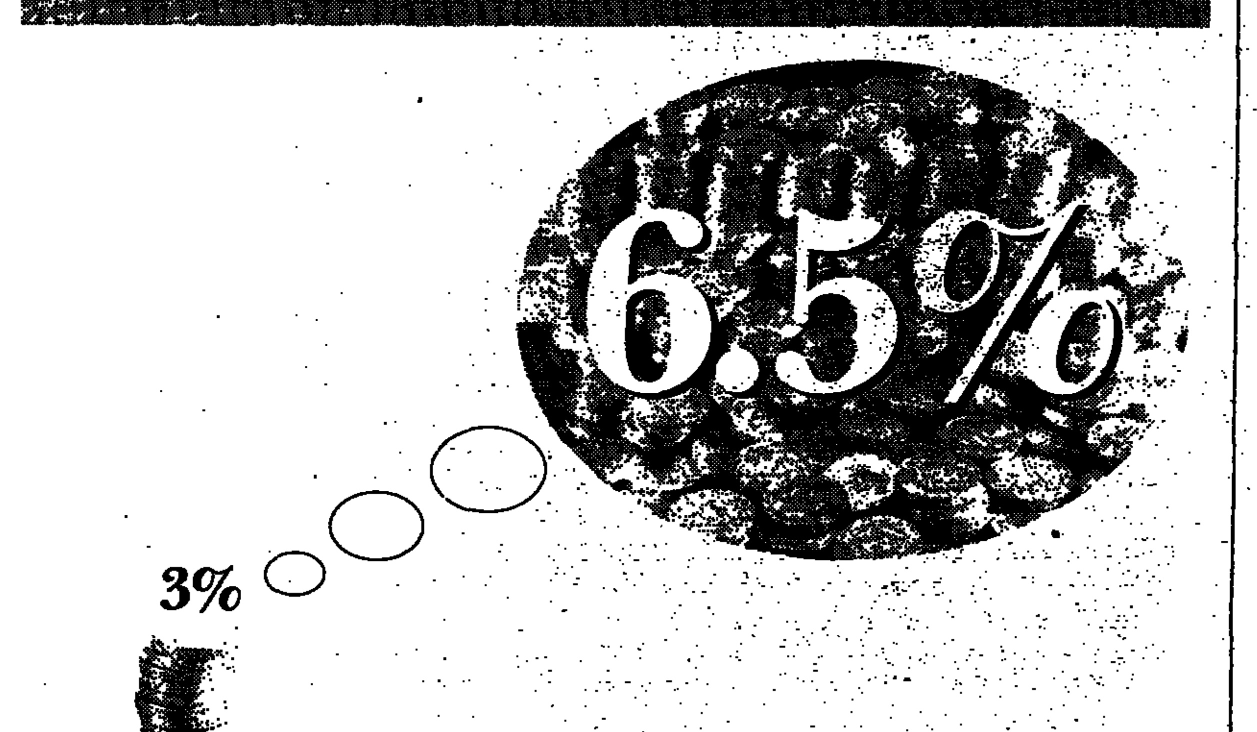

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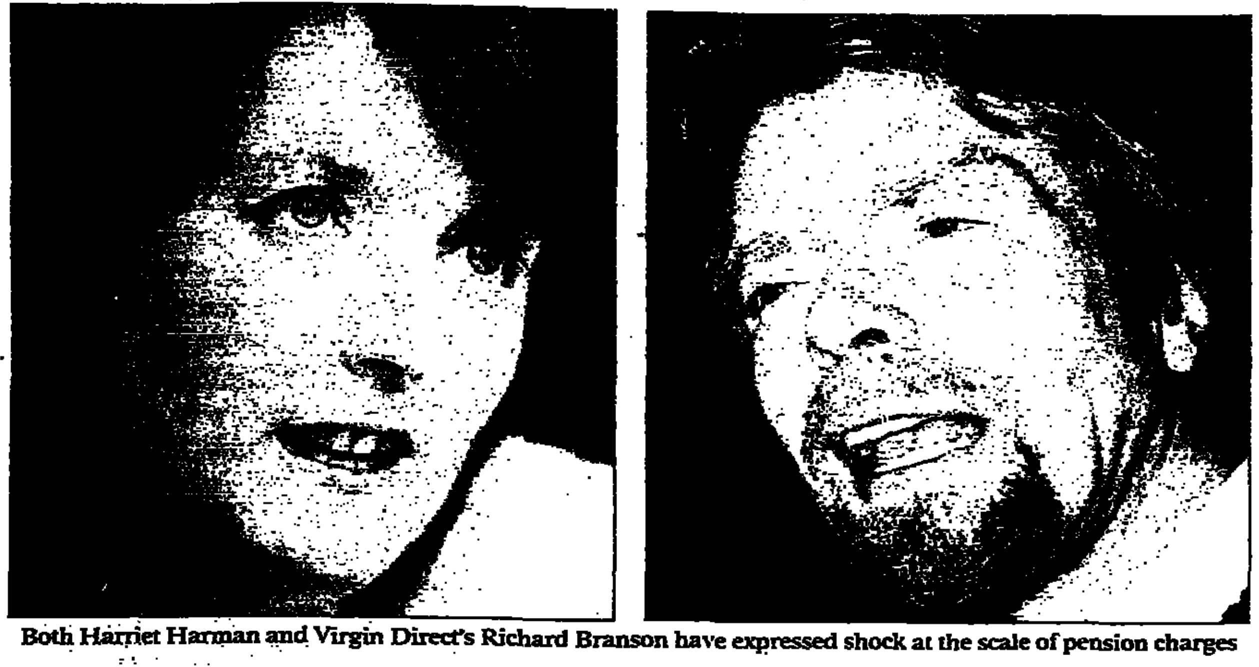
Helen Pridham reports on the benefits of low-cost pensions



Both Harriet Harman and Virgin Direct's Richard Branson have expressed shock at the scale of pension charges

The personal touch

Charges on personal pension plans can eat up as much as £1 of every £4 invested, significantly reducing the return. But pension providers are slowly realising that they can no longer deduct such large amounts from contributions. *The change of heart has been partly* caused by fear of Government ire. Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, is a fierce opponent of the charging policies of the pension providers. It is unlikely that any high-cost company will be allowed to sell the new stakeholder pensions, for those with low incomes.

Some low cost schemes, such as the Virgin plan, are already on the market, sold mainly by phone. Richard Branson was spurred to enter the pension market by his shock at the level of charges.

Steve Roberts, of Eagle Star Direct, another low cost provider said: "There is no doubt that people who ring us for a pension are looking for very good value for money." The company has found that it is not only how much is charged, but the confusing way in which fees and costs are expressed that can cause people to delay taking a pension.

With traditional personal pensions, a large part of the charges are used to cover the cost of marketing and paying commission to the salesmen or financial advisers who sell the plans. These expenses are usually taken out in the early years of the plan which particularly penalises those who cannot keep up their contributions.

By selling direct to the public over the phone, providers have managed to reduce costs and charges. Some low-cost providers are existing pension companies that have set up special telephone sales operations alongside their other activities. One of the first to do so was Scottish Widows in 1993, while a more recent entrant to this market is Legal & General Direct. Equitable *Life is an established company that has* always pursued a different approach to fellow insurers by not paying commission. Newcomers to financial services such as Marks & Spencer and Virgin Direct, headed by Richard Branson, saw the telephone as a means of attracting buyers who were unhappy with conventional pension providers and their sales methods. The expenses deducted from the low-cost pension plans are sometimes less than half those taken from conventional plans. Over a 30-year term, for example, charges deducted from a £100-a-month personal pension taken out in the traditional way can total about half the premiums paid. Under a low-cost plan, total expenses on the same premiums can be reduced to under £10,000 — although the timing of deductions is also important. Just because one company has lower total charges, the fund value may not always be higher if more charges have been taken out in the early years.

For many investors, buying over the phone is more attractive than sitting down face to face with a salesman. An instant decision does not have to be made on the phone, although Eagle Star will accept a premium paid by debit card if someone wants to get their pension up and running immediately. Normally, investors will discuss their circumstances with the provider, find out about the pension on offer and will then be sent details of the plan with an application form. The minimum level of regular savings required is usually between £25 and £50 a month. A single-premium pension can be set up with a lump sum and this is typically set at a minimum of £500 or £1,000. Most providers allow regular savers to increase or decrease contributions and to stop and start them if necessary. But Virgin Direct claims to have one of the most flexible contracts of all, allowing one-off contributions of just £50 to be made at any time. Virgin's Martin Campbell said: "Unlike other providers who charge a monthly policy fee even when no premiums are being paid, we only charge a standard fixed fee of £2 when a contribution is actually made."

Some companies give more investment choices than others. Virgin Direct offers a growth fund, which tracks the FTSE all-share index, with an option to have savings automatically switched to a lower-risk fixed-interest fund in the ten years prior to retirement. Marks & Spencer's plan is linked to an international managed fund that invests in a mixture of UK and international shares, but when investors are within five years of their expected retirement age their money is also switched to a fixed-interest fund.

Investors considering an actively managed fund, such as a with-profits fund, for their pension should check the provider's past performance. Surveys of past results are published regularly in magazines such as *Money Management*.

PERSONAL PENSION COSTS

What you would pay and what you would expect to receive at age 65 for £100 per month

	All plans charges in 1yr (£)	Men aged 35 at outset Total cost (£)	Men aged 35 at outset Value of fund at 65 (£)	Men aged 45 at outset Total cost (£)	Men aged 45 at outset Value of fund at 65 (£)
Colonial Direct 0800 828582	62	10,940	138,944	4,120	55,640
Eagle Star Direct 0800 776666	33	15,700	134,000	5,300	54,800
Equitable Life 01296 385200	47	8,120	150,000	2,960	58,500
Legal & General Direct 0500 656565	58	8,940	147,000	3,340	57,700
Marks & Spencer 0800 363420	69	9,910	143,000	3,900	56,100
Scottish Widows Direct 0345 678910	112	10,600	135,000	5,780	52,400
Virgin Direct 0345 959595	32	13,526	137,533	4,420	56,078

*Assumes growth rate of 9 per cent pa

60 DAY HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNT

"With the best rate of 7.3% gross p.a. on £10,000 it's worth another look"

Ross Kent – Head of Bank Products
THE MAN FROM THE PRU.

Prudential's 60 Day Notice Account gives a better rate of interest for your £10,000 than any comparable account. What's more, you can access your savings without notice twice a year and without losing interest. We offer:

- An excellent 6.3% gross p.a. for £5,000 – £9,999. Rising to 7.3% gross p.a. for £10,000 or more
- Interest can be paid monthly

For more details call
0800 000 222
8am – 10pm weekdays and 8am – 12 noon Saturdays.
Or speak to your Prudential representative.

PRUDENTIAL

60 DAY HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNT

"With the best rate of 7.3% gross p.a. plus access it's worth another look"

Ross Kent – Head of Bank Products
THE MAN FROM THE PRU.

With Prudential's 60 Day Notice Account you get a better rate and:

- You can access your savings without notice twice a year and without losing interest or your bonus
- The convenience of saving by phone or post

Amount	Gross annual rate (including 1% loyalty bonus)
£5,000 – £9,999	6.3%
£10,000+	7.3%

For more details call
0800 000 222
8am – 10pm weekdays and 8am – 12 noon Saturdays.
Or speak to your Prudential representative.

TI/2607/60DAY83

PRUDENTIAL

Best rate position based on annual interest rate compared with all other onshore Instant Access and up to 90 day Notice Accounts. Source: Moneyfacts as at 24/7/97. The rates include a loyalty bonus of 1% gross p.a., calculated daily and paid annually on the anniversary date. This is paid provided the account is still open and in the preceding 12 months no more than two withdrawals have been made and the balance has not been less than £2,000. *Interest will be calculated net of income tax, presently 20% (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), or subject to* the required registration, gross. Tax legislation is subject to change. Rates are variable. Telephone calls may be monitored or recorded. Prudential Banking plc is registered in England and Wales. Registered Office: 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH. Registered number 2999842.

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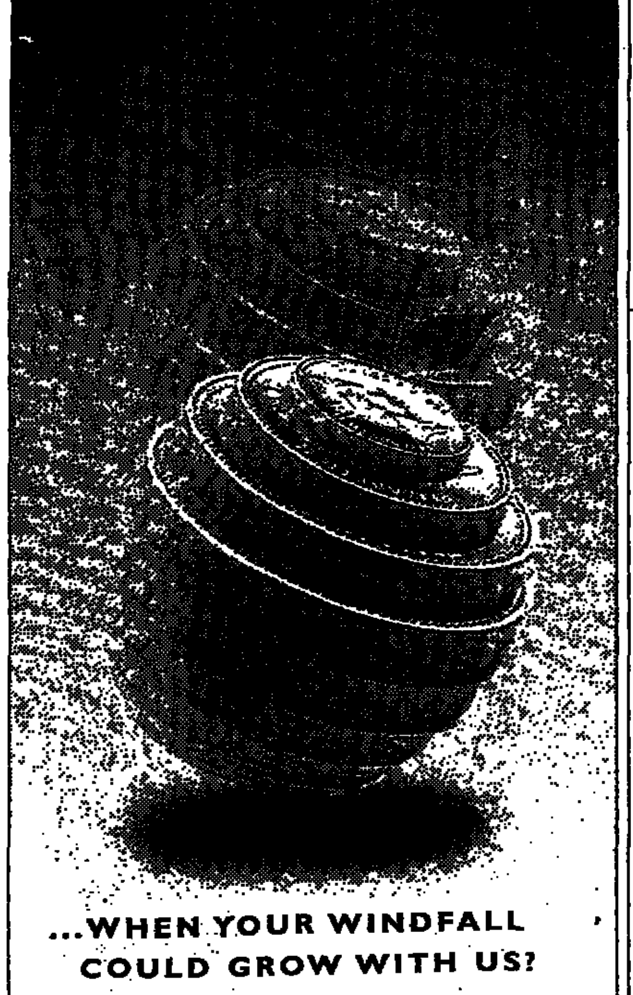

...WHEN YOUR WINDFALL COULD GROW WITH US?

If you're likely to receive a windfall bonus of free shares from your building society and haven't already invested in a General PEP for the 1997/98 tax year, *you could use the shares in addition to your normal PEP investment allowance of £6,000 per tax year* and provide a tax-free* shelter for your windfall bonus. But only if you apply within 42 days from the date the shares are issued.

We will transfer the shares into a General PEP and sell them on your behalf. The proceeds will be used to buy units in our UK 100 Companies Fund and will remain within the PEP If you'd like to register for more information right away, call us free on

0800 363488
quoting code P039

MARKS & SPENCER
FINANCIAL SERVICES

The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

* You can invest up to £6,000 in each tax year in a General PEP. Any tax deducted from your income is claimed back from the Inland Revenue on your behalf and any gain you make when selling your Plan is also tax-free. The Fund is exempt from Capital Gains Tax, but pays tax on any income it receives. The tax treatment of PEPs may be changed by future legislation. The value of any tax benefits will depend upon your individual financial circumstances.

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Address: ______
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Postcode: ______ Date of Birth: ______
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Convenient contact time: ______

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OFFER ENDS 31ST JULY '97

PENSION CHARGES PLUMMET.

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Until the end of July, Eagle Star is offering a special deal on our single premium pension plan with rock bottom charges beginning as low as 0.5% annually*.

As always, Eagle Star gives advice on this pension directly by phone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and offers the peace of mind of our unique two-year Full Satisfaction Guarantee.

This money saving offer provides an excellent opportunity to top up your pension now, safe in the knowledge that more of your money will go where you want it...into your pension.

PENSIONS *BY PHONE*
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0800 77 66 66

EAGLE STAR

*Example £12,500 single premium qualifies for 0.5% annual management charge, no other charges! Usual terms apply to contributions of less than £5,000. Eagle Star Life Assurance Company Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. We only give advice on our own products.
For your protection your call to Eagle Star may be recorded. *Full written details are available on request.*
This information is based upon our understanding of current law and Inland Revenue Practice (20/5/97), both of which may change in the future.

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

National Savings looks at rates

National Savings has announced that an extra £2 million will be distributed in Premium Bond prizes from November, with a greater number of prizes in the £100 to £50,000 range to be won. There will also be rate increases on several National Savings products.

A new issue of Index-Linked Savings Certificates is now available. The 11th issue has a rate of 2.75 per cent per annum tax-free over five years. Investment limits remain unchanged: minimum £100, maximum £10,000 for new purchases. There is no upper limit for reinvestments.

The interest rate on each of the two Income Bonds investment tiers will go up by 0.5 per cent gross from September 5, 1997. Income Bonds, which pay interest monthly, will have a new rate of 6.5 per cent per annum on investments under £25,000 and 6.75 per cent for £25,000+. Maximum investment is £250,000.

From August 8, interest rates on Investment Account balances of more than £2,500 will go up by between 0.2 and 0.35 per cent gross, and there will be two new tiers at £2,500 and £10,000. The new structure and annual rates are: under £500: 4.75 per cent (no change); £500-£2,499: 5.25 per cent (no change); £2,500-£9,999: 5.45 per cent; £10,000-£24,999: 5.6 per cent; over £25,000: 5.75 per cent. Minimum investment is £20 and maximum, £100,000.

The Treasurer's Account, a 30-day notice account for non-profit making organisations, is offering an increase of 0.25 per cent gross on each of the three investment tiers. Rates will be as follows from August 8: 5.5 per cent pa for £10,000 to £24,999, 5.75 per cent for £25,000 to £99,999 and 6 per cent for £100,000 to £2 million.

From Monday, the one-month notice period for early withdrawals on Children's Bonus Bonds will be abolished. The interest rate of 6.75 per cent per annum tax free remains unchanged; the investment limits will also remain at £25 minimum, £1,000 maximum.

The rate on Deposit Bonds (no longer on sale) will increase to 6.5 per cent per annum gross from 6 per cent with effect from September 5, 1997.

Interest rates on all other National Savings' products remain unaltered.

LIZANNE ROSE

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Clydesdale Bank 0800 445265	Savings	Instant	£25	6.50	Qly
Cheltenham & Glouc 0800 742437	Inst Transfer	InstantB	£1,000	6.50	Yly
Legal & General Bank 0500 111200	Direct Access	Postal	£2,500	6.70	Yly
Legal & General Bank 0500 111200	Direct Access	Postal	£10,000	7.00	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Nottingham BS 0115 956 4422	Postal Plus	30 day p	£5,000	6.95	Yly
Irish Permanent 0800 973321	Extra Post	60 day p	£25,000	7.10	Yly
First National BS 0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day p	£25,000	7.20	Yly
Scarborough BS 01723 500616	Scarb 120 Day	120 day	£5,000	7.15	Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fxd+feeder a/c	5 year	£8,575	7.55	F/Yly
Melton Mowbray BS 01664 63937		5 year	£1,000	7.50	Yly
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+feeder	5 year	£9,000	7.45	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.15	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000	Visa	0.64%N	7.90%N	Nil
RBS Advanta 0800 077770	Visa	0.79%N	9.90%N	Nil
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.87%C	10.90%	Nil

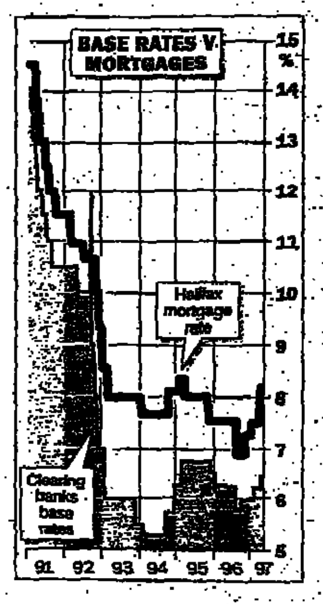
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

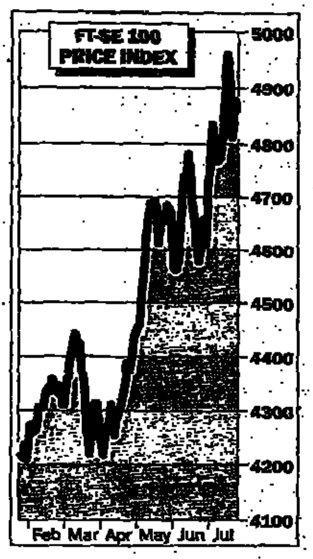
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Northern Rock BS 0345 421421	12.90%H	£114.29	£102.59
Direct Line 0181 680 9966	13.90%A	£112.07	£101.33
RBS Direct 0800 121125	14.00%	£114.95	£101.45

Nb. A = Minimum age 22 years. Holders of comprehensive motor insurance policy or lender's existing customers, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, C = no interest free period, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), H = Higher rate applies if insurance *not* arranged, N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = *By Post only*

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*	6.00	4.80	3.80	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond	6.25	5.00	3.75	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
44th Issue Cert†	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bonds	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
11th Index Linked†	2.75			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000	60day	0645 645000

*¹ first £70 (£140 j) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ‡ Unlisted additional hldgs for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble §Guaranteed when held for 5 years 0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ £100,000 ‡ in addition to S1 and S2 holdings *Taxable but cred in full £500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply*

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Canada Life..........Level	£9,502	£10,587	£12,065
Standard Lf..........Level	£9,404	£10,496	£11,980
Norwich Un..........Level	£9,468	£10,476	£11,816
Equitable Lf..........Level	£9,534	£10,462	£11,675
Stalwart..........Level	£9,365	£10,423	£11,546

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential..........Level	£8,830	£9,638	£10,825
Canada Life..........Level	£8,800	£9,614	£10,804
Norwich Un..........Level	£8,750	£9,513	£10,664
Royal Sun All..........Level	£8,509	£9,365	£10,612
Stalwart..........Level	£8,442	£9,352	£10,240

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Norwich Un..........Level	£8,567	£9,097	£9,761
Canada Life..........Level	£8,370	£8,994	£9,878
Stalwart..........Level	£8,243	£8,938	£9,722
Prudential..........Level	£8,353	£8,886	£9,708
Equitable Lf..........Level	£8,277	£8,813	£9,547

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 8383)

Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at July 24, 1997

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	4.75
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.20
	10,000	GE Fin Assur*	6.80
2 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.55
	10,000	AIG Life	6.42
	20,000	AIG Life	6.56
	50,000	AIG Life	6.66
3 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.55
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.30
	20,000	GE Fin Assur	6.58
	50,000	GE Fin Assur	6.68
4 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.10
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.20
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.70

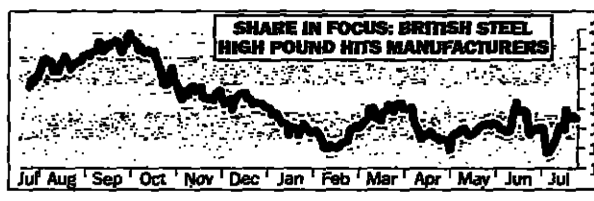
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available. *Limited edition

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	121.58	7.675	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	145.09	8.012	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	162.16	8.017	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	164.78	8.117	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	160.77	8.086	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	157.65	7.626	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	144.50	8.132	100.25	10,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	168.48	7.938	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	133.64	8.007	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	157.51	8.016	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	156.73	8.055	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	161.21	7.987	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (30/09-27/03)	9.04063%	116.00	100.00	1,000
First Nat(22/09-20/03)	9.12031%	105.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Chelsea 0800 291291	5.20	£20k+	80	2.75% disc to 1.8.99
Nationwide 0800 302010	5.20	£20k+	80	Fixed for 2 yrs
Northern Rock 0800 591500	5.24	to £250k	90	Fixed until 1.10.99
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc-6 mth 3% disc-6 mths
Royal Bank of Scot 0800 121121	5.20	£150-250k	90	3% discount to 2.3.98

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0990 133149	0.95	£30-100k	95	6.99% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
Universal 0800 216121	1.60	£20-150k	95	6% dsc-1.9.98
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Alliance & Leic 0800 412214	5.20	£20-150k	95	3% discount to 1.9.98

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Derbyshire 01332 841000	4.20	to £250k	95	3.15% discount for 1 year
Newbury 01635 43676	4.35	£15-100k	95	3% discount for 1 year
Coventry 01203 555255	5.95	£25-250k	90	6% discount-6 mth Further dsc apply
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.05% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
Halifax 01422 333333	5.20	no max	95	3% dsc-30.9.99, 0.5%ovr svr-10.04

Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Blay's Guides Ltd (01753 880482).

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh. EH12 9SE 0131 339 9191				
Balanced	568.90	602.10	- 6.70	...
UK Equity	763.80	808.30	-14.50	...
Property	443.10	468.90	+ 0.50	...
Fixed Interest	365.00	386.30	- 0.10	...
Money	276.30	292.40	+ 0.20	...
International	482.80	510.90	- 2.50	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Custodian S4	212.40	223.60	+ 0.10	...
Ethical S4	168.60	177.50	- 1.90	...
International S4	240.90	253.60	+ 0.10	...
Protected Gth S4	129.70	136.60	+ 0.20	...
Asian Pacific	222.30	234.10	+ 2.60	...
European S4	259.70	273.40	+ 0.40	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	422.90	445.10	+ 0.20	...
Equity Ser 4	300.60	316.50	- 4.30	...
Man Ser 4	859.50	904.80	- 5.20	...
Conv Ser 4	362.90	382.10	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	362.60	381.70	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	423.70	446.10	+ 1.20	...
American Ser 4	802.90	845.20	-11.60	...
High Inc Ser 4	929.50	978.50	-13.70	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	239.50	252.30	+ 0.10	...
Japan Ser 4	316.70	333.40	- 0.30	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	2128.30	2240.30	-35.30	...
European Fd Acc	560.30	589.70	- 3.30	...
Fixed Int Acc	598.80	630.20	+ 1.90	...
Gtd Money Acc	369.20	388.50	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	820.80	864.01	- 3.50	...
Intl Fxd Int Acc	367.70	387.00	- 0.30	...
Japan Fund	269.30	283.40	+ 1.20	...
N American Acc	488.40	514.00	+ 2.70	...
Prop Fd Acc	498.30	524.50	- 1.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1333.10	1403.20	-10.50	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	414.30	436.20	+ 0.20	...
Equity Acc	1941.30	2043.50	-14.90	...
Property Acc	699.70	736.60	+ 0.80	...
Far East Acc	346.50	364.80	+ 2.20	...
Managed Capital	674.40	709.90	- 3.30	...
-do- Acc	1459.50	1536.40	- 6.70	...
Overseas Acc	1351.50	1422.70	-22.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	593.60	624.90	+ 3.60	...
Amer Equity Acc	1337.10	1407.50	+ 9.30	...
Amer Man Acc	552.00	581.10	+ 3.90	...
Amer Prop Acc	116.30	122.50	+ 0.80	...
Distribution Bonds	27.10	28.60	...	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	183.40	193.00	+ 0.20	...
Balcd Ser 6	956.50	1006.80	- 8.90	...
Opportunity Ser 6	221.30	232.90	- 2.10	...
Distribution Ser 6	110.50	116.30	- 0.30	6.29
UK Equities Ser 6	1425.60	1500.60	-26.70	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	1449.10	1525.30	-22.50	...
North Amer Ser 6	682.20	718.10	+ 6.40	...
Far East Ser 6	596.40	627.70	+ 4.50	...
Europe Ser 6	566.20	595.40	- 1.20	...
Intnl Ser 6	751.80	791.30	+ 0.60	...
Property Ser 6	616.70	649.10	+ 1.10	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	513.20	540.20	+ 0.90	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	207.60	218.50	- 0.40	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	330.50	347.80	+ 0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	1226.30	1290.90	-24.00	...
-do- Initial	739.90	778.90	-14.30	...
Gilt Edged Acc	471.60	496.50	+ 2.80	...
-do- Initial	287.00	302.20	+ 1.70	...
International Acc	507.50	534.20	- 1.00	...
-do- Initial	307.20	323.40	- 0.60	...
Managed Acc	707.50	744.80	- 6.90	...
-do- Initial	429.40	452.00	- 4.20	...
Money Acc	322.30	339.30	+ 0.40	...
Property Acc	331.70	349.20	+ 0.50	...
-do- Initial	200.30	210.90	+ 0.30	...
America Acc	462.00	486.40	+ 3.80	...
Far East Gwth	279.10	293.80	+ 0.50	...
Financial Acc	554.10	583.30	-11.80	...
500 Accum	519.60	547.00	- 3.30	...
Japan Acc	253.90	267.30	- 0.20	...
Income Acc	708.70	746.00	-11.30	...
Leisure Acc	329.80	347.20	- 6.00	...
Special Sits Acc	374.90	394.70	- 7.60	...
Unit Tech Acc	208.30	219.20	- 1.70	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	1059.67	1059.67	- 5.82	...
Income Fund	1029.76	1083.96	-15.10	...
Extra Income	918.26	966.59	-12.79	...
Worldwide Gth	617.13	649.62	- 1.73	...
Balanced Fund	909.69	957.57	- 9.07	...
Smllr Cos Recov	1057.43	1092.04	- 3.83	...
N Amer & Genrl	549.65	578.58	+ 3.80	...
Pacific Basin	423.63	445.93	+ 2.68	...
German Growth	310.12	326.45	- 3.58	...
Japan Growth	166.00	174.74	- 1.37	...
The UK Gth Fd	294.36	309.86	- 4.05	...
Contl Euro Gth	192.38	202.51	- 1.44	...
Property Fund	436.46	459.46	+ 0.58	...
Fixed Interest	393.71	414.44	+ 2.51	...
Cash Fund	313.13	329.62	+ 0.27	...
Managed Inv	629.96	663.12	- 3.73	...
Nth Amer Recov	342.31	360.33	+ 1.39	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	559.18	588.62	- 5.31	...
BRITANNIA 50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR 0141 248 2000				
Measured Perf	229.40	238.50	+ 0.70	...
Performance Plus	257.10	272.00	- 0.20	...
With Profit Perf	195.20	205.50	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	290.20	305.90	- 3.70	...
Euro Opportunity	319.40	337.90	- 1.30	...
North Amer Opp	288.60	305.40	+ 3.20	...
Far East Opp	228.10	241.30	+ 4.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	186.20	196.00	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	216.50	229.10	- 0.10	...
Fixed Int	243.70	257.80	+ 0.90	...
Cash	175.30	185.40	+ 0.30	6.49
Overseas	296.30	313.50	- 0.30	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	472.10	497.00	+ 1.50	...
UK Equity	874.80	920.90	-11.00	...
Property	298.80	314.60	- 0.10	...
Money Market	277.70	292.40	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	354.00	372.70	+ 1.40	...
Japan	337.40	355.20	+ 2.40	...
North America	256.80	270.40	+ 2.80	...
International	457.80	481.90	- 0.50	...
European	408.50	430.00	- 1.60	...
Far East	168.90	177.80	+ 2.90	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Managed	433.00	455.80	- 4.40	...
Property	286.20	301.30	...	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	284.80	299.80	+ 1.40	...
Equity	527.40	555.20	- 8.00	...
Cash	236.60	249.10	+ 0.30	...
CLife Euro Mgd	507.10	533.80	- 5.90	...
CLife Intl Fd	412.60	434.40	- 1.80	...
Managed Fund	924.40	973.00	- 9.40	...
Property Fund	580.30	610.80	- 1.20	...
Equity Fund	1301.40	1369.90	-20.00	...
Gilt Edged Fd	734.70	773.40	+ 3.60	...
Deposit Fund	366.00	385.30	+ 0.30	...
Investment Fd	574.70	604.90	-13.40	...
International	656.70	691.30	- 2.90	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	184.40	194.20	...	...
Managed Fund	851.10	895.90	- 7.80	...
Equity Fund	515.30	542.50	- 8.10	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	376.90	396.80	- 2.90	...
Ruby	214.60	226.00	- 0.90	...
Emerald	166.60	175.40	+ 0.30	...
Equity	450.60	474.40	- 7.10	...
Property	249.40	262.60	+ 0.70	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	246.80	259.80	+ 1.20	...
Indexed Secs	191.30	201.40	- 0.40	...
Cash	206.40	217.30	+ 0.20	...
Nth American	357.20	376.10	+ 3.60	...
Far East	318.30	335.10	- 0.60	...
International	307.50	323.70	+ 0.20	...
Special Sits	466.00	490.60	- 7.90	...
Intl Income	409.00	430.60	- 4.50	...
European	478.10	503.30	- 0.50	...
Japanese	128.40	135.20	- 0.60	...
SE Asia	425.50	447.90	+ 4.50	...
With Profits Reg	193.90	204.00	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	193.80	204.00	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	450.20	473.90	- 5.60	...
Equity	578.90	609.40	-14.60	...
Property	233.50	245.80	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	322.60	339.60	+ 1.40	...
Index Linked	205.00	215.80	- 0.80	...
Cash	285.20	300.20	+ 0.20	...
Nth American	448.10	471.70	+ 4.70	...
Far East Acc	336.20	353.90	+ 1.30	...
International Acc	389.00	409.50	+ 0.10	...
Special Sits	721.10	759.10	- 3.10	...
European Flex	700.20	737.10	- 3.50	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Units) Key 1	264.32	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker 1	409.97	...	...	...
-do- Cash	222.89	234.62	+ 0.15	...
-do- Equity	740.81	779.80	- 7.53	...
-do- Fxd Int	431.79	454.52	+ 1.24	...
-do- Managed	524.37	551.97	- 3.57	...
-do- Property	375.25	395.00	+ 1.92	...
(Pens) Cash Cap	217.17	228.61	+ 0.09	...
-do- Cash Inv	348.71	367.07	+ 0.30	...
-do- Equity Cap	1954.48	2057.36	-21.85	...
-do- Equity Inv	3139.26	3304.44	-32.85	...
-do- Fixed Cap	463.44	487.84	+ 1.77	...
-do- Fixed Inv	744.14	783.32	+ 3.38	...
-do- Index Cap	217.50	228.95	- 0.73	...
-do- Index Inv	349.23	367.62	- 0.92	...
-do- Mngd Cap	765.86	806.18	- 5.74	...
-do- Mngd Inv	1229.73	1294.46	- 8.35	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5) 1	1106.11	...	- 9.68	...
Var Ann (5) 1	126.56	...	+ 2.47	...
Prime Managed	529.00	556.80	- 5.60	...
Prime UK Equity	688.20	724.50	-13.40	...
Prime Int Equity	372.10	391.70	+ 0.50	...
Prime Property	262.50	276.40	+ 0.60	...
Prime Fxd Int	273.80	288.30	+ 0.90	...
Prime Index-Lnk	192.70	202.90	...	...
Prime Cash	227.40	239.40	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744040				
Managed Fund	1454.80	1531.30	+17.70	...
Equity II	2193.10	2308.50	+41.90	...
For Crown see Windsor				
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham. GL53 7LQ 01242 221311				
Life Funds				
Lt With Pfts (5&6) 1	115.30	...	+ 0.20	...
Secure (2) 1	109.90	...	...	...
Managed (3) 1	124.90	...	+ 0.10	...
Equity Mngd (3) 1	129.50	...	...	...
Adventurous (3) 1	121.60	...	+ 0.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bristol & West (2) 1	111.40	...	+ 0.20	...
Equity Mgd S1	314.20	330.80	- 0.20	...
Managed S1	312.20	328.70	...	...
Adventurous S1	252.20	265.50	+ 0.90	...
Managed (2)	211.10	222.30	+ 0.10	...
Eagle/Mid Uts	409.40	424.30	+ 0.30	0.01
Pension Funds				
Unit Wth Pfts (5) 1	115.10	...	+ 0.20	...
Secure (2) 1	110.40	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (2) 1	127.80	...	+ 0.10	...
Equity Mngd (2) 1	129.90	...	...	...
Adventurous (2) 1	121.80	...	+ 0.50	...
Bristol & West (2) 1	111.90	...	+ 0.20	...
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed	414.50	436.40	- 4.00	...
UK Equity	571.10	601.20	-11.10	...
Stewardship	475.10	500.20	- 3.30	...
Overseas Equity	387.60	408.10	- 1.00	...
North American	237.20	249.70	+ 2.30	...
Pacific Basin	191.90	202.10	+ 1.40	...
European	374.70	394.50	- 2.40	...
Property	194.10	204.40	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	287.20	302.40	+ 0.90	...
Index Linked	193.30	203.50	- 0.30	...
Cash	222.50	234.30	+ 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	634.50	667.80	+ 2.20	...
Managed	931.60	980.60	- 9.20	...
Deposit	380.20	400.20	+ 0.40	...
Property	529.10	556.90	- 2.50	...
American	659.10	693.70	+ 7.20	...
Australian	706.50	743.60	+ 7.20	...
European	878.00	924.30	- 6.20	...
Income Acc	1012.40	1065.60	-15.40	...
-do- Dist	548.50	577.40	-10.60	4.27
International	406.50	427.80	- 1.10	...
Japan Smaller	372.40	392.00	- 5.70	...
Singapore & Mal	449.70	473.30	+ 4.00	...
Smaller Cos	585.30	616.10	-16.30	...
Tokyo Fund	633.50	666.80	+ 4.30	...
UK Equity	801.50	845.70	-16.50	...
CCM Vangd Mix	983.60	1035.30	- 7.70	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	350.40	368.90	+ 3.10	...
GT Plan Wwide	604.40	636.30	+ 5.00	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	845.30	845.30	- 8.10	...
-do- Inv A	845.20	889.80	- 8.00	...
UK Equity	548.50	577.40	-12.00	...
Gilt Plus	234.10	246.50	+ 0.60	...
Managed	384.50	404.80	- 3.90	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	276.60	291.00	- 2.00	...
Unitised Profit	164.80	173.40	- 0.20	...
UK Equity	404.40	425.90	- 7.00	...
Fixed Int	230.60	242.60	- 0.80	...
Index-Linked	185.20	194.90	- 0.50	...
Cash Deposit	192.00	202.00	+ 0.10	...
Property	190.80	200.70	+ 0.20	...
International	225.20	237.00	+ 0.90	...
American	261.80	275.50	+ 3.10	...
Japan	225.50	237.30	+ 1.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	231.00	243.00	+ 1.30	...
European	255.30	268.60	- 0.10	...
Pacific Fund	320.70	337.50	+ 4.40	...
Conv Life	168.50	177.50	- 1.70	...
Formerly Provident Mutual				
Managed Ord	631.50	664.70	- 4.60	...
Managed Initial	390.80	411.40	- 3.00	...
Equity Ord	1022.30	1076.10	-17.70	...
Equity Init	632.70	666.00	-11.40	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	225.90	237.80	- 0.50	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	146.00	153.70	- 0.40	...
Oseas Equity Ord	486.40	512.00	+ 3.60	...
Oseas Equity Init	301.00	316.80	+ 2.00	...
Property Ord	296.30	311.90	+ 0.30	...
Property Init	183.40	193.10	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ord	337.10	354.80	+ 1.10	...
Fixed Int Init	208.70	219.70	+ 0.60	...
Deposit Ord	229.00	241.10	+ 0.30	...
Deposit Initial	141.70	149.20	...	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ast Prop Bds	914.20	956.50	...	...
Managed Initial	585.50	616.30	- 7.60	...
-do- Acc	885.90	932.50	-11.10	...
Equity Initial	941.30	990.90	-22.30	...
-do- Acc	1424.30	1499.30	-33.10	...
Fixed Int Initial	496.60	522.70	+ 1.50	...
-do- Acc	751.40	790.90	+ 2.60	...
Intl Initial	546.40	575.20	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	826.70	870.20	+ 0.50	...
Nth Amer Initial	287.30	302.40	+ 2.40	...
-do- Acc	395.60	416.40	+ 3.90	...
Pacific Initial	224.10	235.90	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	305.80	321.90	+ 0.50	...
Property Initial	190.50	200.40	...	...
-do- Acc	287.80	303.00	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	172.60	181.70	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc	237.70	250.20	+ 0.50	...
Deposit Initial	207.20	218.10	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	313.60	330.10	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	144.90	152.50	- 0.20	...
-do- Acc	184.30	194.00	- 0.30	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	33.54	35.31	- 0.14	...
Balanced	33.78	35.56	- 0.21	...
Opportunity	34.34	36.15	- 0.23	...
Deposit	26.17	27.55	+ 0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation S2	25.92	27.29	- 0.10	...
Balanced S2	26.62	28.02	- 0.23	...
Opportunity S2	25.95	27.32	- 0.31	...
Deposit S2	24.42	25.71	+ 0.04	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 540000				
Managed	222.30	234.00	- 2.10	...
-do- Pens	289.60	304.80	- 3.40	...
UK Equity	243.40	256.20	- 2.60	...
-do- Pens	298.90	314.60	- 4.10	...
International	190.70	200.70	- 2.80	...
-do- Pens	215.40	226.70	- 1.20	...
Deposit	153.90	161.90	+ 0.20	...
-do- Pens	188.10	197.90	+ 0.20	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	714.80	756.50	-15.70	...
British Fund	791.20	837.30	-16.60	...
International	712.40	753.90	+ 2.70	...
Dollar Fund	651.90	689.90	+13.40	...
Capital Fund	659.30	693.50	- 8.00	...
Income Fund	985.60	1043.00	-18.40	...
Property Series A	533.20	564.30	...	4.80
Property Units	886.10	933.60	...	...
Financial Fund	950.00	1005.30	-11.60	...
Managed Ser A	718.90	760.80	- 7.00	...
Managed Units	1298.30	1367.70	-13.90	...
High Yield Fund	874.80	925.80	-16.20	...
Money Series A	320.70	339.40	+ 0.30	...
Money Units	429.50	452.20	+ 0.60	...
Equity Fund	834.20	882.80	- 9.70	...
Fixed Interest	452.20	478.60	+ 1.80	...
Indexed Secs	210.60	222.90	...	...
European Fund	1056.20	1117.70	- 0.10	...
Natural Res	306.70	324.60	- 1.30	...
Far East Fund	633.10	670.00	+ 4.00	...
Smaller Cos	638.20	675.40	- 4.80	...
Special Sits	665.80	704.60	- 9.80	...
Man Currency	284.30	300.90	- 0.60	...
Japanese Tech	312.30	330.50	- 1.40	...
US Smaller Cos	480.50	508.50	...	...
Formerly Target Life Assurance Co. Ltd				
Deposit	274.10	288.60	+ 0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	77.50	82.40	- 0.90	...
Fixed Interest	385.70	406.10	+ 1.30	...
Gold	75.80	79.90	- 0.80	...
Managed	795.70	837.70	- 7.60	...
Mngd Growth	251.80	265.10	- 2.60	...
Mngd Opp	268.00	282.20	- 2.80	...
Property	390.20	410.70	...	...
Residential Prop	122.60	129.20	...	...
TSB American	373.30	393.10	+ 6.00	...
TSB Brit Gwth	1227.90	1292.10	-24.30	...
TSB European	394.20	415.00	- 0.10	...
TSB Income	576.00	606.40	- 9.90	...
TSB Intl	546.00	574.80	- 2.50	...
TSB Intl Inc	354.80	373.60	- 3.90	...
TSB Pacific	441.30	464.60	+ 2.80	...
TSB Prem Inc	340.40	355.70	- 2.50	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	765.00	805.30	-595.40	...
Global Property	329.10	346.40	...	...
Global Fixed Int	620.30	652.90	+ 5.10	...
Global Equity	842.80	887.20	- 6.90	...
Global Cash	236.90	249.30	+ 0.20	...
For Laurentian see Lincoln				
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	199.70	210.30	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Int	186.70	196.60	- 2.90	...
-do- Acc	250.50	263.70	- 3.90	...
Cash Initial	171.90	181.00	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	319.80	336.70	+ 0.30	...
Equity Initial	882.10	928.60	-15.30	...
-do- Acc	1641.00	1727.40	-28.50	...
Fixed Initial	386.30	406.70	+ 1.20	...
-do- Acc	718.70	756.60	+ 2.20	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	141.70	149.20	- 0.30	...
-do- Acc	225.00	236.90	- 0.50	...
Intl Initial	370.80	390.40	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	679.20	715.00	+ 1.40	...
Managed Initial	588.50	619.80	- 4.80	...
-do- Acc	1095.30	1153.00	- 8.90	...
Property Initial	231.40	243.60	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	430.60	453.30	+ 0.30	...
LINCOLN The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 200 200				
Equity Units	£184.56	...	-248.00	...
Property Units	3076.00	3238.00	+ 2.00	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	8593.00	9045.00	-64.00	...
2nd Equity Acc	871.30	917.10	-12.40	...
2nd High Inc Ac	839.70	883.90	-10.20	...
2nd Property Acc	276.30	291.00	+ 0.10	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	208.60	219.50	...	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	596.50	627.70	- 4.50	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	287.80	302.90	- 1.70	...
2nd Deposit Acc	313.90	330.40	+ 0.30	...
2nd Gilt Acc	357.60	376.30	+ 1.40	...
2nd Amer Acc	1035.00	1090.00	+11.00	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	240.70	253.20	- 0.30	...
2nd Index Acc	232.20	244.30	+ 0.40	...
2nd Far East Acc	411.00	432.50	- 0.90	...
2nd Global Acc	203.60	214.40	- 0.20	...
2nd Euro Acc	216.50	227.70	+ 0.70	...
2nd Japan Acc	161.50	169.90	- 0.80	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	171.60	180.60	- 0.10	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	168.90	177.50	- 2.10	...
ex-Laurentian				
Property	589.60	619.50	- 0.20	...
Managed	539.10	567.50	- 4.00	...
American	616.40	648.70	+ 6.40	...
UK Equity Fd	632.70	665.90	- 9.00	...
Japan	177.90	187.10	- 0.90	...
Index-Lkd	208.50	218.80	+ 0.40	...
High Yield	1166.00	1227.30	-15.00	...
Money	446.00	469.40	+ 0.40	...
International	457.80	481.90	- 0.50	...
Perpetual Active	409.10	430.70	- 2.50	...
Growth Acc	858.40	892.40	- 6.20	...
Gilt Edged	506.60	533.20	+ 2.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	197.50	207.80	+ 0.70	...
Far East	217.40	228.70	- 0.50	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0117 984 7777				
Equity 1	1230.10	...	- 7.80	...
Fixed Interest 1	519.60	...	+ 5.40	...
Property 1	475.00	...	+ 0.60	...
Deposit 1	327.50	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed 1	772.90	...	- 0.30	...
Indexed Stock 1	250.30	...	- 0.10	...
International 1	353.90	...	+ 3.20	...
Equity A 1	284.40	...	- 1.80	...
Fixed Int A 1	229.70	...	+ 2.40	...
Property A 1	208.10	...	+ 0.30	...
Deposit A 1	191.60	...	+ 0.20	...
Mixed A 1	253.10	...	- 0.10	...
Index Stock A 1	195.30	...	- 0.10	...
International A 1	220.30	...	+ 2.00	...
Equity P 1	1080.30	...	- 8.20	...
Fixed Int P 1	718.60	...	+ 7.90	...
Property P 1	372.60	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit P 1	395.00	...	+ 0.50	...
Mixed P 1	742.40	...	- 0.20	...
Index Stock P 1	287.90	...	...	...
International P 1	428.40	...	+ 5.10	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap 1	643.10	...	- 3.30	...
-do- Acc 1	1310.90	...	- 5.50	...
Property Cap 1	139.40	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc 1	250.40	...	+ 0.10	...
Fxd Interest Cap 1	208.80	...	+ 1.10	...
-do- Acc 1	378.10	...	+ 2.20	...
Equity Cap 1	401.80	...	- 5.70	...
-do- Acc 1	741.20	...	- 9.90	...
Internatl Cap 1	360.20	...	- 1.70	...
-do- Acc 1	474.20	...	- 2.90	...
Gtd Deposit Cap 1	159.70	...	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc 1	287.00	...	+ 0.20	7.20
Flexible Cap 1	403.70	...	- 3.80	...
-do- Acc 1	741.50	...	- 6.30	...
Moneymaker Fd 1	565.00	...	- 3.50	...
Capital Growth 1	3434.70	...	-28.80	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	662.40	695.60	+13.80	...
Amer Rec Bond	773.90	812.70	+16.60	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	323.60	339.90	+ 2.50	...
Australasia Bd	318.10	334.10	+ 2.50	...
Commodity Bond	394.50	414.30	+ 4.90	...
Deposit Bond Acc	399.60	419.70	+ 0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	1862.80	1956.10	-16.10	...
European Bd Acc	569.50	598.00	+ 4.00	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	991.90	1041.60	-15.00	...
Gilt Bond Acc	535.30	562.10	+ 1.70	...
Gold Bond Acc	140.30	147.40	+ 5.10	...
High Yield Bond	413.10	433.90	- 6.00	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	235.40	247.30	+ 0.10	...
International Bd	951.80	999.40	+ 1.80	...
Japan Bond Acc	212.30	223.00	- 2.50	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	210.00	220.60	- 0.70	...
Managed Bonds	1094.60	1149.60	-11.30	...
Prop Bond Acc	514.80	540.70	- 3.40	...
Rec Bond Acc	969.70	1018.30	-11.30	...
S East Asia Bd Acc	357.90	375.90	+ 5.80	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	301.30	317.20	- 6.10	...
UK Equity Acc	466.10	490.70	- 9.10	...
Special Sits	123.70	130.30	- 2.30	...
Special Sits Acc	191.50	201.60	- 3.40	...
North American	261.80	275.60	+ 1.70	...
N American Acc	405.10	426.50	+ 2.90	...
Pacific Basin	357.60	376.50	+ 1.70	...
Pacific Basin Acc	553.30	582.40	+ 3.00	...
Fixed Interest	313.10	329.60	+ 1.00	...
Fixed Interest Acc	484.90	510.50	+ 1.90	...
Property	188.40	198.40	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	291.80	307.20	+ 0.20	...
Deposit	155.40	163.60	...	...
Deposit Acc	240.80	253.50	+ 0.20	...
Managed	324.90	342.00	- 3.40	...
Managed Acc	463.20	487.60	- 4.60	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366				
Property	452.20	476.00	+ 2.60	...
UK Equity	503.70	530.20	- 5.50	...
Gilt Edged	725.30	763.40	+ 6.30	...
Interest Fund	442.40	465.60	+ 0.90	...
Managed Fd	615.20	647.50	- 3.20	...
Intl Equity	754.70	794.40	+ 0.60	...
North American	320.10	336.90	+ 1.50	...
Far East	479.70	504.90	+ 0.90	...
Intl Currency	261.10	274.80	+ 0.40	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200				
Managed	629.60	662.70	- 5.20	...
UK Equity	889.00	935.70	-15.20	...
Overseas Equity	581.70	612.30	+ 3.20	...
American	587.10	617.90	+ 3.70	...
Far East	590.20	621.20	+ 3.30	...
Property	241.20	253.80	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	463.00	488.00	+ 1.90	...
Indexed Gilt	263.20	277.00	- 0.60	...
Deposit	241.30	253.90	+ 0.30	...
NAT WEST LIFE ASSCE LTD PO Box 886, Trinity Quay, Bristol BS99 5LJ 0117 940 4040				
Growth Mgd Pens	182.90	191.60	- 1.60	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200				
Managed Fund	1938.00	2040.00	-17.80	...
Equity Fund	4461.30	4696.00	-76.10	...
Property Fd	697.70	734.40	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Int Fd	726.00	764.20	+ 2.60	...
Deposit Fund	391.80	412.40	+ 0.40	...
Intl Fund	319.30	336.10	- 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
OLD MUTUAL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	407.30	428.70	- 6.70	...
Fxd Interest Acc	289.90	305.90	+ 1.10	...
International Acc	309.10	326.10	+ 0.90	...
Managed Acc	282.10	297.60	- 2.50	...
Property Acc	211.60	223.30	+ 0.30	...
Money Acc	169.90	179.30	+ 0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	225.40	237.80	- 2.10	...
Japan Equity Acc	105.60	111.40	+ 0.60	...
N Amer Acc	249.80	263.60	+ 2.80	...
Pacific Acc	149.30	157.50	+ 0.60	...
European Acc	274.40	289.50	- 2.80	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	146.00	153.70	+ 0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	350.90	369.40	+ 0.30	...
Inv Equity	1740.20	1831.80	-48.70	...
Inv Managed	1147.60	1208.10	-17.90	...
Ret Managed	1350.40	1421.50	-19.80	...
For Provident Mutual see General Accident				
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 0171 405 9222				
Managed	466.20	485.70	- 2.10	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	1043.00	1097.90	- 8.80	...
Equity Fund	2207.00	2323.20	-42.90	...
Intl Fund	810.10	852.80	+ 3.40	...
Fixed Interest	673.90	709.40	+ 2.10	...
Property Fund	507.30	534.00	+ 0.50	...
Cash Fund	404.10	425.40	+ 0.30	...
Pacific Basin	378.50	398.50	+ 6.00	...
N American Fd	435.00	457.90	+ 6.20	...
Euro Fund	413.90	435.70	+ 0.50	...
Balanced Fund	207.50	218.80	- 1.40	...
Strategic Fund	225.60	237.50	- 1.70	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45) 1	981.60	...	...	...
-do- Acc	533.20	561.30	...	...
Op Prop	352.10	371.20	- 0.50	...
Op Equity	1393.90	1467.30	+20.40	...
Op High Yield	711.20	748.60	+ 3.40	...
Op Managed	1067.20	1123.40	+12.90	...
Op Deposit	434.20	457.00	+ 0.70	...
Japan Smlr	189.80	199.80	...	...
Managed Gth	363.50	382.60	...	...
British	492.20	518.10	...	...
Global Bond	121.20	127.60	...	...
Gold Share	79.40	83.60	...	...
Japan	366.80	386.10	...	...
UK Smlr Cos	557.50	586.80	...	...
Mngd Growth	603.20	634.90	...	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000				
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	512.30	539.20	+ 6.70	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	95.40	101.00	- 0.10	2.38
Deposit Fund (2)	421.20	445.80	+ 0.60	6.83
Gilt Fund	625.70	662.20	- 2.50	8.10
Global Equity Fd	296.00	313.30	+ 1.20	...
Property Fund (46)	124.90	132.20	+ 0.40	7.05
AG Bond Fund	166.30	175.90	- 1.10	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323				
Equity	825.10	868.60	-12.60	...
Fixed Interest	437.50	460.00	+ 0.40	...
Index-Linked	221.30	233.00	- 0.60	...
International	564.40	594.20	- 3.10	...
Property	336.00	353.70	+ 0.10	...
Cash	254.60	268.00	+ 0.20	...
Managed	608.00	640.00	- 5.90	...
Cap Gteed Bd	168.80	177.70	- 2.50	...
95% Safeguard	110.40	...	- 0.90	...
100% Safeguard	102.30	...	...	...
Wealth Pres Cap	105.50	...	- 0.80	...
Wealth Pres Inc	79.80	...	+ 8.60	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101				
Cash	201.67	212.28	+ 0.17	...
Index-Linked	187.80	197.70	- 0.60	...
Fixed Interest	218.70	230.20	+ 0.90	...
Mixed	344.50	362.70	- 1.90	...
UK Equity	335.80	353.50	- 1.80	...
International	337.40	355.20	+ 3.80	...
American	447.50	471.00	+ 6.70	...
Japan	207.30	218.20	+ 2.70	...
European	398.50	419.50	+ 1.80	...
Pacific	386.40	406.60	+ 9.50	...
Technology	606.90	638.80	+ 1.30	...
Frgn Bd/Crcy	239.40	252.00	+ 0.40	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211				
Property	247.20	260.30	+ 0.30	...
UK Equity	522.30	549.90	- 1.10	...
American	387.50	408.00	-11.20	...
Pacific	380.40	400.50	+ 4.00	...
European	661.60	696.50	- 4.60	...
Global Mgd	400.40	421.60	+ 3.90	...
Fixed Interest	287.80	303.00	+ 2.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Index Linked	226.50	238.50	+ 0.30	...
Deposit	216.70	228.20	+ 0.20	...
Managed	386.10	406.50	+ 0.90	...
Worldwide	150.00	158.00	+ 0.20	...
Pen Worldwide	165.00	173.80	+ 0.30	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	2302.00	2373.20	...	...
Safety Fund	289.60	304.80	- 0.80	...
Growth Fund	313.70	330.30	- 1.50	...
Opportunity Fd	313.70	330.30	- 2.60	...
Cash Fund	192.50	202.70	+ 0.20	...
European Fund	521.40	548.90	- 0.80	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	250.10	263.30	+ 1.50	...
Index-Linked Fd	205.30	216.20	- 0.60	...
International Fd	366.50	385.80	[illegible]	...
North American	387.90	408.40	[illegible]	...
Property Fund	137.00	144.30	...	...
UK Equity	350.60	369.10	- 4.80	...
UK Smaller	327.40	344.70	- 2.40	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181				
Mixed	360.10	379.10	- 2.30	...
Equity	394.30	415.10	- 5.40	...
International	341.00	359.00	+ 1.20	...
Property	254.60	268.10	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	286.70	301.80	+ 0.80	...
Index Linked	207.10	218.10	- 0.30	...
Cash	204.80	215.70	+ 0.20	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	1060.00	1127.70	- 8.10	...
Cash Fund	373.60	393.70	+ 0.30	...
Property Fund	329.40	347.20	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	1146.50	1219.70	- 0.90	...
Fxd Interest Fund	577.50	608.60	+ 1.70	...
International	481.40	512.20	+ 1.90	...
High Income	990.70	1054.00	-16.90	...
Far East	600.30	638.20	- 0.90	...
North American	862.50	917.60	+10.10	...
Special Sits	879.50	935.70	-11.10	...
Technology	1152.90	1227.00	+14.40	...
Extra Income Fd	535.20	569.40	- 8.00	...
Gilt Fund	546.90	581.80	+ 0.40	...
European	214.60	228.30	- 0.80	...
Adventurous Mg	271.60	289.30	- 0.70	...
Secure Mgd	188.00	198.20	- 0.30	...
Equity Inc Dist	145.80	155.70	- 2.20	4.04
Managed Dist	128.00	134.90	- 1.80	4.67
Henderson Investment Bonds				
UK Equity Fd	435.20	463.60	- 5.50	...
North America	516.50	549.50	+ 1.10	...
Far East Fund	618.50	658.00	- 2.60	...
Global Managed	591.90	629.70	- 5.30	...
Deposit Fund	251.40	266.20	+ 0.20	...
Prime Residential	144.70	152.40	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	384.70	409.30	- 6.50	...
Fixed Interest	61.80	65.70	+ 0.10	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	1356.00	1358.00	- 8.30	...
Inv Pol 2	1224.30	1288.90	- 7.80	...
Inv Pol 3	1154.90	1215.80	- 7.40	...
Inv Cash	351.40	370.00	+ 0.40	...
Mixed Fund	603.60	635.40	+ 2.10	...
Equity Fund	766.40	806.80	+ 1.30	...
Property Fund	279.30	294.10	+ 0.30	...
International Fd	630.90	664.20	+ 3.60	...
Fixed Interest Fd	457.40	481.60	+ 2.20	...
Indexed Stock Fd	229.00	241.20	- 0.50	...
Cash Fund	253.70	267.20	+ 0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 01703 334411				
Managed Acc	518.20	545.50	- 1.30	...
Equity Acc	663.80	698.40	- 6.10	...
International Acc	408.40	429.80	+ 0.30	...
Property	249.30	262.40	- 0.50	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2DH 0131 225 2552				
Cash	297.90	313.60	+ 0.30	...
Equity	1460.20	1537.10	-24.40	...
European	225.40	237.30	- 1.00	...
Far East	180.50	190.00	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	479.10	504.40	+ 2.40	...
Index Linked	242.70	255.50	- 0.50	...
International	735.00	773.70	+ 1.30	...
Managed	944.70	994.10	- 7.20	...
Nth American	224.70	236.60	+ 2.00	...
Property	416.90	438.90	- 0.10	...
Pensions				
Cash	479.80	505.10	+ 0.60	...
Equity	2286.70	2407.10	-35.90	...
European	306.30	322.50	- 0.10	...
Far East	147.80	155.60	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	694.20	730.80	+ 4.10	...
Index Linked	345.10	363.30	- 0.40	...
International	1130.60	1190.20	+ 3.10	...
Managed	1437.70	1513.40	-10.40	...
Nth American	311.70	328.20	+ 3.50	...
Property	610.00	642.20	+ 1.40	...
Stock Exchange	317.70	334.50	- 3.60	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 01403 232323				
Managed Fund	940.30	989.70	- 5.30	...
Equity Fund	1280.70	1348.20	-25.10	...
Fixed Interest Fd	491.30	517.20	+ 2.00	...
Index-Linked Fd	368.00	387.40	+ 0.90	...
Property Fund	577.20	607.60	+ 0.70	...
International Fd	917.40	965.70	-13.00	...
N American Fd	443.80	467.20	+ 5.00	...
Far East Fund	231.10	243.40	- 4.40	...
Deposit Fund	333.30	350.90	+ 0.30	...
Intnl Bd 1	1127.00	...	[illegible]	...
Worldwide Bond	165.20	173.90	- 0.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	266.50	280.60	- 2.40	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	953.40	1003.70	- 2.40	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	576.50	615.50	-37.40	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund 1	676.80	...	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc 1	625.40	...	+ 0.70	...
Agricultural Fd 1	925.40	...	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc 1	881.30	...	+ 0.80	...
Abbey Nat Fd 1	497.40	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Acc 1	520.40	...	+ 0.50	...
Investment Fd 1	506.40	...	- 2.60	...
Investment (A) 1	483.10	...	- 2.60	...
Equity 1	1888.20	...	-35.10	...
Equity Acc 1	1796.10	...	-33.50	...
Money Fund 1	538.00	...	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc 1	511.30	...	+ 0.40	...
Actuarial Fd 1	826.20	...	- 4.50	...
Gilt-Edged Fd 1	462.50	...	+ 1.80	...
-do- Acc 1	462.50	...	+ 1.80	...
Retire Annuity 1	1423.80	...	...	...
Immed Annuity 1	301.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life 1	252.90	...	+ 0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealings 01256 841414				
Growth Acc 1	2065.40	...	-28.00	...
Managed Acc 1	1153.30	...	+23.50	...
Equity Account 1	1771.80	...	+48.70	...
Mngd Fund Acc	523.50	551.10	+11.10	...
Equity Fund Acc	763.00	803.20	+21.90	...
Prop Fund Acc	294.10	309.60	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	380.50	400.50	+ 1.20	...
Money Fund Acc	244.70	257.60	+ 0.20	...
Indx-Lnk Sec Ac	233.10	245.40	+ 1.60	...
Pers Pens Acc 1	2601.20	...	-12.40	...
Pens Mngd Acc	1208.80	1272.40	- 6.10	...
Pens Guarantee	310.90	327.30	+ 0.50	...
Pens Equity	490.30	516.10	- 3.70	...
Pens Property	345.50	363.70	+ 0.40	...
Pens Fixed Int	374.50	394.20	+ 1.70	...
Pens Intl	322.70	339.70	- 1.60	...
Pens Money	271.10	285.40	+ 0.30	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	229.30	241.30	+ 1.90	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James, Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	1197.60	1260.70	- 3.90	...
Property Acc	460.10	484.40	- 3.30	...
Equity Acc	2082.40	2192.10	-14.60	...
Fixed Int Acc	495.90	522.10	+ 2.90	...
Cash Acc	346.40	364.70	+ 0.30	...
Amer Equity Acc	605.80	637.70	+ 7.10	...
Japan Acc	271.80	286.20	- 1.90	...
Pacific Acc	419.00	441.10	- 1.70	...
Far Eastern Acc	885.50	932.20	- 4.10	...
International Acc	745.60	784.90	- 5.30	...
Distribution Fund	328.20	345.50	- 1.80	5.43
Pinkoplan	266.50	280.60	+ 0.90	...
Defd Dist	218.70	230.30	- 0.40	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE 01264 345678				
Managed Fund	375.60	395.40	- 3.30	...
Property Fund	238.40	251.10	- 1.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	264.70	278.70	+ 0.90	...
Money Fund	222.60	234.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	509.30	536.20	- 4.60	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929				
Managed Bond	933.30	982.40	- 9.80	...
Money Fund	352.70	371.20	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fund	867.70	913.30	-15.90	...
Fixed Interest	336.70	354.40	+ 1.20	...
Property Fund	428.00	450.50	- 1.60	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	773.20	814.00	- 1.70	...
Income	999.80	1053.50	-12.50	...
International Gth	780.90	822.90	- 0.20	...
Capital Fund	770.90	812.30	+ 5.80	...
Recovery Fund	643.20	677.00	+ 0.50	...
Japan & General	242.10	255.10	+ 0.30	...
Formerly Abtrust				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	20.07	21.13	+ 0.02	...
Bear	26.09	27.46	- 0.30	...
Owl	28.39	29.88	- 0.46	...
Bull	23.93	25.19	- 0.25	...
Stag	24.50	25.79	- 0.09	...
Gilt Edged	22.28	23.45	+ 0.07	...
Deposit	17.34	18.25	+ 0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	28.23	29.72	+ 0.04	...
Bear	38.57	40.60	- 0.53	...
Owl	41.05	43.21	- 0.83	...
Bull	32.77	34.49	- 0.43	...
Stag	32.94	34.67	- 0.18	...
Gilt Edged	29.58	31.14	+ 0.13	...
Deposit	23.21	24.43	+ 0.07	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund 1		790.34	- 7.78	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	481.82	507.18	- 3.83	...
N Amer Equity	417.31	439.22	+ 4.82	...
Far East Equity	428.06	450.56	+ 2.25	...
Fixed	355.57	374.28	+ 1.16	...
Cash Deposit	227.68	239.66	+ 0.08	...
Property	182.37	191.97	- 0.67	...
Special Opp	473.95	498.89	- 1.93	...
Managed	415.22	437.07	- 4.33	...
Index-Linked Fd	215.35	226.68	- 1.31	...
Formerly Crown				
Life Mangd Acc	780.70	819.20	- 8.00	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	446.60	470.10	+ 1.40	...
Life Equity Acc	1144.70	1200.10	-21.00	...
Life Money Acc	331.70	349.10	+ 0.30	...
Life Inv Tr Acc	1021.60	1071.90	-10.60	...
Life Intl Acc	604.00	633.20	+ 1.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	1133.80	1190.10	-26.80	...
Life Property Acc	287.30	302.40	- 1.00	...
Brewin Equity	926.20	974.90	- 1.20	...

هكذا من الأصل

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Windfall tax hits savers and pensioners, not just fat cats

From Mr M. Fitzpatrick

Sir, The recent fluctuation in the share price of United Utilities, a multi-purpose utility which faces a windfall tax bill of about £400 million, reminds us that the windfall tax will effectively have acted as a levy on savings.

The windfall tax was introduced in the Budget earlier this month, aimed at raising £5.2 billion from the privatised regulated utilities (Prus) in order to finance a "Welfare to Work" programme.

The Treasury has maintained the line that the windfall tax will act as a levy on savings. This is because shares in the Prus will be worth less than they would have been if the windfall tax had never been invented.

On the assumption that the ownership of the UK-quoted Prus broadly reflects the ownership of the stock market as a whole, it is a relatively simple exercise to allocate the windfall tax hit across the three main categories of shareholders affected.

These are pension funds (with about 19 million active members), endowment funds (with approximately 17 million policy holders) and finally some eight million private investors directly holding shares in Prus.

So how much does each individual lose on average? First, pensions funds, where we estimate that there is a one-off hit of about £70 per member. Second, endowment policy holders: we estimate a hit of about £60 per individual. Finally, there are the private individuals directly holding shares in Prus; we estimate that they will have lost about £125 each.

Adopting an overview of the above figures, it is clear that the windfall tax acts as a levy on the savings of a significant proportion of the UK population. Many people will feel that such a levy is justified if it re-allocates resources from the relatively advantaged (ie savers) to the relatively disadvantaged (ie the unemployed).

However, it might be less insulting to our intelligence if the Treasury was actually open and admitted this, rather than persisting with the myth that the windfall tax will mainly fall on the fat cats.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE FITZPATRICK,
Senior Tax Consultant,
Chantrey Vellacott,
Russell Square House,
10-12 Russell Square, WC1.

Netting millions — at 30p a time

From Mr P.E. Wood

Sir, May I be allowed to add my two penn'orth, please forgive the pun, to the correspondence already published (July 5 and 19) on the subject of the taxman and pennies.

On my Tax Calculation Statement for 1996-97 I have found that, hidden away in the single amounts shown against taxable income, calculated at 20 per cent and 4 per cent, is the Married Couples Allowance of £1,120 which equates to £268.80 tax at 24 per cent. My total tax liability is then reduced by the MCA of £1,790 at 15 per cent. This allowance is worth £268.50. Only 30 pence difference maybe but if every eligible married man in the country is treated in this way the sleight of hand becomes a nice little earner for you know who.

Yours faithfully,
P. WOOD,
6 Normanton Street,
Brighton.

Third time lucky. . . ?

From Mr R.J. Braunton

Sir, It is my custom to record winning numbers of my Premium Bonds and I was surprised to find my latest number had previously won in May 1992. Ever optimistic, I am hoping that the third time this Premium Bond is drawn out of the hat, it will produce a prize at one of the higher levels.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BRAUNTON,
19 Robson Road,
West Norwood, SE27.

Counter culture

From Mr S.L.Smaller

Sir, Bill Mott, manager of the Credit Suisse Income unit trust, is reported by Gavin Lumsden (*Regular income and capital growth make an odd couple*, July 19) to have said that the Government's intention is to promote a long-term investment culture by companies reinvesting in their business and not issuing dividends to their investors.

If investors are not to receive their returns in the form of dividends they can only do so by selling their investments which would run counter to the stated objective.

Yours faithfully,
S. SMALLER,
Coromandel, The Close,
Ifold, Billingshurst,
West Sussex.

Pound poser

From Mr A. Harada

Sir, The pound's strength over the past 12 months has had a dramatic effect on the exchange rates. (A bigger splash for the pound on holiday, July 19) The pound rules. Why is it that German, French, Italian and Japanese cars still cost a lot more to buy in the UK than two years ago? Surely they should be much cheaper now.

Yours faithfully,
A. HARADA,
57 Lache Park Avenue,
Chester.

DIRECT LINE RATES

SAVINGS RATES

Direct Line Instant Access Account	
BALANCE	ANNUAL GROSS RATE
£1–£4,999	5.15%
£5,000–£9,999	5.50%
£10,000–£24,999	6.15%
£25,000–£49,999	6.25%
£50,000–£99,999	6.50%
£100,000+	6.60%

MORTGAGE RATE

Direct Line Standard Variable Mortgage Rate	
VARIABLE RATE	7.04%
APR	7.2%

All rates correct at 21st July 1997.

DIRECT LINE
FINANCIAL SERVICES

0181 649 9099
MORTGAGES

0181 667 1121
SAVINGS

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Source: Direct Line Financial Services. For further information about either of the Direct Line products listed above, please phone the appropriate number above, quoting ref TTBB14

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THE WEEK IN MONEY

THE tax authorities were attacked on Monday by the insolvency profession for forcing thousands of self-employed workers into unnecessary bankruptcy. A survey by the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency revealed that businesses which collapse owing money to the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise are nearly twice as likely to be made bankrupt as those whose future is decided by creditors in the private sector. The Inland Revenue flatly denied any preference for bankruptcy, saying that it officially considers the procedure a last resort.

☐ Economists warned the Treasury Select Committee on Monday that Britain faces a serious risk of recession next year. Gavyn Davies, chief economist for Goldman Sachs, told MPs that the chances of making a major monetary policy error were greater now than in 1987. The comments came as the stock market suffered another sharp fall.

☐ The Nationwide Building Society will not follow the Halifax, Alliance & Leicester and Woolwich on to the stock market. Savers voted on Wednesday by a margin of nearly three to one to forgo a £2,000 windfall in order to retain the society's mutual status. Nationwide claims it will underline the merits of remaining a mutual by offering cheaper loans and higher savers' rates than other banks and former building societies.

☐ The Pensions Ombudsman, Dr Julian Farrand, has claimed that the hostile attitude of High Court *judges towards the ombudsman* system had worked against the interests of thousands of company pension scheme members disputing the ownership of fund surpluses with employers.

☐ The Consumer's Association has announced its suggestions for pensions reform. Included is a proposal for a personal retirement account for everybody in work who is not already a member of a company pensions scheme, around half of the working population, designed to give everyone 40 per cent of their final salary when they retire.

☐ Mercury Asset Management, the fund manager, has aborted the launch of its first investment trust in three years after raising only £13 million from investors. Although innovative, the proposed Mercury Retirement Trust had a complicated dual - share structure which did not appeal to general investors.

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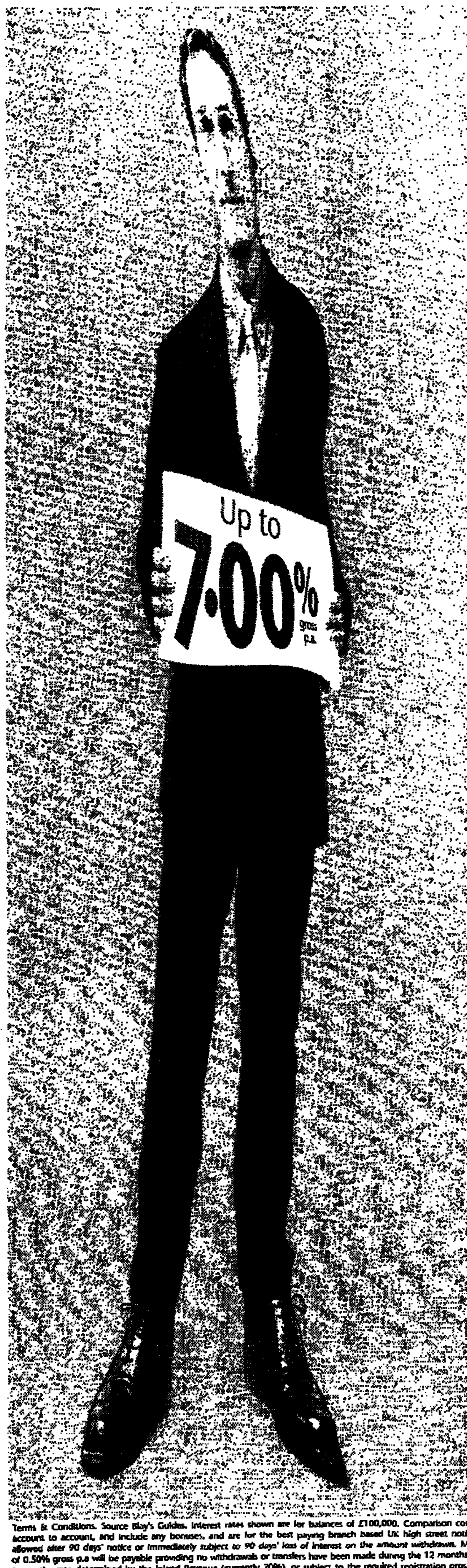
Martin Currie Investment Management Limited, Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. Regulated by IMRO. TT26/7



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Provider	£100,000+ gross p.a.
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Woolwich	6.00%
Halifax	6.75%
Nationwide	6.50%
Britannia	6.75%
Bradford & Bingley	6.65%
Bristol & West	6.25%

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Terms & Conditions. Source Blay's Guides. Interest rates shown are for balances of £100,000. Comparison correct as at 24 July 1997, and is limited to rates available on that date alone. Comparison is on the basis that withdrawal terms and conditions vary from account to account, and include any bonuses, and are for the best paying branch based UK high street notice accounts from the providers referred to. Interest rates quoted are variable and gross. For Alliance & Leicester's Platinum Plus account withdrawals are allowed after 90 days' notice or immediately subject to 90 days' loss of interest on the amount withdrawn. Minimum opening balance £2,500. Interest paid annually or monthly on request. Different interest rates apply to monthly interest. The interest rate bonus of 0.50% gross p.a will be payable providing no withdrawals or transfers have been made during the 12 months prior to the anniversary of the account being opened. The rate of 7.00% gross p.a. shown above includes this bonus. Interest will be payable net of income tax at the rate determined by the Inland Revenue (currently 20%), or subject to the required registration gross. Additional income tax may be payable if you are a higher rate tax payer. Interest is calculated daily from the day following receipt up to and including the day before withdrawal, except for cheques where it is calculated from the fourth banking day following receipt (Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays are not banking days). Maximum investment with Alliance & Leicester is £500,000 per individual. Full terms and conditions are available on request. Alliance & Leicester plc. Registered Office: 49 Park Lane, London, W1Y 4EQ. Company No: 3263713. Registered in England. Authorised as a bank pursuant to the Banking Act 1987. Member of the British Bankers Association.

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett (John)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	788.70	838.10	- 16.10	2.26
General Inc	653.40	695.20	- 13.30	2.26
UK Growth Acc	545.90	580.80	- 11.70	2.20
UK Growth Inc	349.10	371.40	- 7.40	2.20
Higher Inc Acc	964.10	1025.70	- 17.60	3.68
Higher Inc Inc	505.80	538.10	- 9.20	3.68
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	221.30	233.60	+ 0.40	5.44
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.49	99.80	+ 0.20	5.44
Nth America	416.30	442.90	+ 4.40	
Europe	437.60	465.60	- 1.10	
Brit Exceli	109.10	116.10	- 2.30	2.33
Brit Fndmtls Acc	133.40	142.00	- 1.40	4.31
Brit Fndmtls Inc	88.00	93.62	- 0.92	4.31
Global Opps	116.50	122.90	- 0.10	
Balanced Acc	71.72	76.30	- 0.77	1.98
Balanced Inc	66.29	70.53	- 0.70	1.98
Japan Acc	44.43	47.27	+ 0.32	
Pac Basin Acc	404.10	429.90	+ 3.90	0.84
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	136.90	145.30	+ 0.80	6.32
High Inc Equity	207.90	222.40†	- 4.60	4.36
Worldwide Bond	266.30	282.40	+ 0.10	3.93
American Growth	497.60	531.70	+ 7.70	0.31
Asian Pacific	344.70	368.70	+ 1.00	0.37
Assets & Earnings	323.80	346.30	- 7.30	2.70
Euro Capital Acc	235.70	252.10	+ 0.20	0.79
Extra Inc	42.58	46.36†	- 0.42	6.48
General	307.20	328.40	- 6.90	2.87
Global Opps	82.65	87.93	+ 0.01	0.45
Japan	103.60	110.80	- 0.10	
Managed Inc	51.15	54.42†	- 0.41	4.13
Mastertrust	191.00	204.30	- 1.00	1.09
US Emerging Cos	205.70	220.00	+ 0.90	
Ethical	83.72	89.06†	- 1.38	2.05
International	154.40	164.30	+ 0.60	0.53
Dividend & Growth	76.85	81.75†	- 1.57	4.11
Global Gwth & Sec	77.21	82.46	+ 0.10	2.45
Latin America	97.10	103.30	+ 2.60	0.38
Capital Reserve	149.70	149.70	+ 0.10	4.67
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
A&P Lt Growth	104.90	111.50†	- 2.20	2.08
Equity Income	149.10	158.60	- 2.80	4.17
Extra Income	284.60	302.70	- 5.70	5.81
Smaller Cos	103.90	110.50	- 0.50	1.73
International	131.20	139.50	- 0.80	1.35
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2338.00	2440.00	- 8.00	
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	75.95	78.97	+ 0.73	
Emerging Mkts	80.38	83.80†	+ 0.31	
European	168.73	175.46	- 2.11	
Extra Income #	54.50	57.35†	- 0.21	5.36
Far East Emg Ecn	125.57	131.71†	- 1.40	0.64
Fixed Interest #	26.74	27.81	+ 0.07	5.38
Fund Inv Tst #	167.47	175.72†	+ 1.05	10.22
Japan	183.70	150.65	+ 0.49	
Latin American	79.84	83.67	+ 0.62	
Pacific	82.70	86.81	+ 0.01	0.14
Property	83.95	88.11†	+ 0.03	1.61
UK Emerging Cos	67.42	72.86†	- 0.21	1.15
UK Growth	64.75	67.43	- 0.57	1.46
Aber World Port #	90.32	95.05†	- 0.68	2.53
Ethical	82.90	86.20†	- 0.59	1.19
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.54	50.54†	+ 0.11	6.97
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Resdl Property #	102.50	109.00		5.21
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	100.40	106.53	- 1.17	1.96
Income Builder Inc	90.26	96.02†	- 0.74	3.66
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	336.20	358.30	- 0.20	2.87
Capital	575.40	615.00	- 1.10	1.02
Balanced	967.40	1034.00	- 4.00	2.36
Accumulator	1891.00	2021.00	- 3.00	7.54
Income Trusts				
American Income	77.93	83.020	+ 1.25	1.95
High Income	549.40	584.00	- 0.20	3.65
Equity Income	304.70	325.70†	- 0.10	3.41
High Yield	328.70	351.30	- 0.10	3.60
Govt Securities	36.53	38.560	+ 0.43	5.38
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	267.70	285.00	+ 3.50	0.04
European Growth	69.36	74.020	- 0.17	0.05
International	216.70	231.40†	+ 1.80	0.10
Japan	189.00	202.00†	- 1.70	.
Pacific	424.90	454.20†	+ 1.70	.
Secs of America	720.00	765.70	+ 8.30	0.10
W'wide Asset Val	81.16	85.380	+ 0.43	0.82
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	755.10	807.20	- 2.40	1.71
Conv & Gilt	55.29	59.100	- 0.31	3.59
Smaller Cos	197.70	211.30	- 1.20	1.09
2nd Smaller Cos	187.40	200.30	- 0.90	0.78
Recovery	188.30	201.20	- 0.40	1.20
Met Min & Cdty	148.40	158.60	+ 1.30	0.30
Oseas Earnings	491.90	525.80	- 2.70	0.92
Technology	271.80	290.30†	+ 0.20	.
UK Special Sits	653.70	698.80	- 4.30	1.53
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cncld Out Pens	136.10	141.30	+ 3.80	
Foundtn Persl Pens	80.64	83.78	+ 2.45	.
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	415.00	441.40	- 1.30	
Bond	124.10	130.60†	+ 0.80	6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	108.50	115.40	- 1.50	1.91
Conv & Gen #	65.97	70.18	- 0.95	5.46
Europe	353.20	375.00	- 1.60	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	127.10	135.50	- 0.80	0.31
Income Gwth	385.00	409.60†	- 3.00	4.20
Japan	340.40	361.60	+ 5.70	.
Latin American	119.40	127.00†	+ 3.50	0.48
Pacific	123.70	131.60	+ 0.70	0.53
UK Smllr Cos	58.93	62.69	+ 0.05	1.29
Japan Fd	631.30	660.00	- 2.60	
Mngd Fd	234.30	249.00	- 1.10	2.45
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	435.98	461.00	- 4.80	0.77
Capital Gwth	153.80	162.70	- 2.50	2.57
W'wide Opps	252.70	267.30	- 3.20	0.82
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	495.20	526.80	- 13.50	1.66
European Bd Inc	97.57	101.10†	- 0.39	5.78
Exempt	98.36	104.50	- 2.60	2.24
500	494.50	531.80	- 2.80	1.99
General	379.00	403.20	- 10.40	1.72
Property	259.50	278.40	- 8.90	5.50
Trustee	266.60	283.60†	- 6.30	1.69
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.40	100.40	+ 0.10	6.17
Distribution #	132.30	132.90†	- 1.70	5.38
Extra Income #	158.70	169.30	- 3.50	4.32
Gilt & Fxd Int	61.68	63.59	+ 0.38	7.35
Income #	664.50	708.80†	- 14.00	4.28
Income Builder #	77.23	82.34	- 1.34	4.84
Intl Income	83.84	89.19†	- 0.21	1.15
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	168.80	179.60	- 4.40	1.54
FTSE 100	123.60	131.20	- 3.80	1.90
Leisure	182.90	195.10	- 3.70	1.37
Recovery	583.70	622.60	- 17.10	1.78
Smllr Cos Inc	56.46	60.22†	- 1.50	2.28
Special Sits	484.70	515.60	- 12.30	1.64
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	223.90	237.30	+ 3.40	0.08
F East Gwth Acc	321.00	341.50	+ 1.90	0.27
Far East Gwth	190.10	202.30†	+ 1.20	0.27
Euro Gwth Inc	231.00	244.50	- 0.40	0.36
-do- Accum	251.30	265.90	- 0.50	0.36
Japan	130.80	138.40	+ 0.70	
-do- Accum	132.30	140.00	+ 0.70	. .
Japan Spec Sits	61.60	65.26	+ 0.27	
Worldwide	225.50	239.40†	- 0.50	0.67
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	174.10	183.80	+ 2.20	
Amer Smlr Cos	165.60	175.60	+ 1.30	
Eastern	305.30	327.50	+ 4.40	0.30
Equity Income #	113.50	121.00†	- 3.70	4.20
European Growth	451.20	479.60	- 2.10	0.90
Europe	421.30	449.50	- 4.60	0.80
German Growth	107.80	114.10	- 0.80	0.50
Global Bond	70.83	74.55†	+ 0.18	6.70
Global Growth	170.30	180.70	+ 0.60	0.40
Japan Growth	179.20	189.00	- 0.40	.
Japan Smlr Cos	122.40	129.50	- 2.30	
Korea Trust	52.03	56.39	- 0.66	
Portfolio	167.30	173.70	- 1.80	2.00
-do- Accum	320.10	340.80	- 3.40	2.00
UK Growth	122.20	130.90†	- 2.50	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	102.30	112.10	- 0.30	1.90
Select Managers	96.03	102.90	- 0.80	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	107.20	114.00†	- 0.50	
Special Oppor Inc	74.29	79.02	+ 1.74	
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	169.93	177.01	- 4.98	1.41
-do- Accum	198.87	207.16	- 5.82	1.31
Smaller Cos	168.99	176.03	- 0.35	0.49
Higher Yield #	64.67	67.37†	- 1.55	3.98
American Gth Inc	128.33	133.68	+ 0.94	
European Growth	200.36	208.71	- 1.22	
-do- Accum	204.65	213.17	- 1.25	
Mngd Ptolo Inc	61.81	64.38	- 0.21	1.23
-do- Accum	64.46	67.15	- 0.21	1.23
Intl Spec Opps	196.02	204.19	- 0.18	
Pacific Gwth	166.95	173.91	+ 6.43	
UK General #	115.29	120.09†	- 1.81	2.95
-do- Accum #	126.96	132.25	- 2.00	2.95
Japan	54.85	57.14†	+ 0.47	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	105.46	109.29	+ 0.54	7.74
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.97	65.80	+ 0.17	6.39
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Enviro	197.90	208.30†	- 1.30	1.71
UK Growth	251.80	265.00	- 6.20	1.69
UK Income	170.30	179.30	- 2.60	3.93
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	266.10	282.10†	- 4.50	1.40
-do- Income Dist	145.20	151.90	- 2.10	3.25
-do- Accum	493.10	512.10	- 7.00	3.25
Gilt & Fxd Int	42.75	44.92	+ 0.19	6.06
Growth Units	301.40	322.30	- 6.70	1.82
Bond	185.00	194.60	+ 0.90	6.30
Intl Growth	261.20	278.20	+ 1.50	0.18
North American	314.90	334.20†	+ 1.10	0.07
Far East	313.30	335.10†	+ 5.70	0.58
UK Smaller Cos	232.10	245.20	- 2.50	1.15
European	111.60	110.70†	+ 0.10	0.42
Japanese Growth	42.13	44.66	+ 0.15	
High Income	256.70	274.20	- 3.90	3.68
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	268.40	284.10	+ 4.10	
European Inc	114.70	121.70	- 0.50	0.12
Smaller Cos (4-1)	103.00	109.60	- 1.00	1.88
Growth	631.10	671.40	- 9.60	1.88
Income & Growth #	523.20	556.60†	- 3.80	4.49
-do- Accum #	817.20	862.40	- 15.30	4.49
Asian & Gen	63.79	67.47	+ 0.25	
Hallmark Gwth	1410.00	1489.00†	- 18.00	1.60
-do- Accum	1762.00	1856.00	- 23.00	1.60
Special Sits	144.30	153.60†	- 2.10	1.90
High Yield	1704.00	1757.00	- 29.00	3.92
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	110.76	118.08†	- 1.47	2.08
American Portfolio	154.24	163.65	+ 3.91	0.76
European Portfolio	157.70	170.09	- 1.77	0.32
High Income	54.46	57.33	- 0.29	6.65
Japanese Portfolio	63.26	67.06†	- 0.16	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	160.89	173.01	- 0.14	0.70
UK Equity	108.86	116.03	- 1.77	2.69
UK Equity & Bd	63.56	67.40	- 0.30	5.29
UK Smlr Cos	51.06	54.02	- 0.39	1.71
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	877.69	890.95	- 4.95	3.89
Inv Fd Acc	888.95	902.39	- 5.01	
Fxd Int Sec Inc	160.13	160.77	+ 0.37	6.89
Fxd Int Sec Acc	163.78	164.44	+ 0.39	
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	881.83	895.15	- 0.38	3.89
Investment Acc	4199.94	4263.42	- 44.63	
Fixed Int Inc	130.32	130.84	+ 0.07	8.87
Fixed Int Acc	253.37	254.39	+ 1.89	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	90.30	95.16	+ 0.87	5.26
Beck Bio-Tech	37.12	40.30†	- 1.23	
Acorn Ethical Tst	193.99	203.71†	- 3.82	0.44
City Fin Assets	84.61	88.85	- 0.44	1.87
City Fin Intl	94.66	99.40	- 1.15	0.06
Frans Hse Cap	332.65	353.88†	- 1.56	1.68
Buckley Wrld Grth	152.52	161.67	+ 3.23	
Shaw Utilities	75.92	77.38	- 0.94	4.50
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	64.34	68.26	- 0.43	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	95.67	101.87	+ 0.44	
Dragon Growth	74.36	79.52	+ 0.83	0.26
Equity High Inc	106.72	111.87	- 1.57	3.51
-do- Accum	156.60	165.71	- 2.34	3.51
Extra Income Inc	27.83	29.29†	+ 0.18	6.44
Extra Income Acc	31.93	33.61	+ 0.19	6.44
European Gwth	79.51	84.14	+ 0.11	0.05
Evergreen	33.98	36.34	- 0.32	
General Equity	123.89	130.75	- 2.33	2.54
Japan Growth	45.18	48.06	+ 0.05	
Pedigree Gwth	71.98	76.16	- 1.43	2.02
Ped Sm Cos Inc	38.55	40.79	- 0.34	1.40
-do- Accum	41.29	43.69	- 0.36	1.40
Retirement Inc #	31.63	33.65	- 0.58	5.55
Special Sits	51.47	55.34	- 0.82	2.76
UK & Overseas	70.16	74.24	- 0.29	0.40
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	78.54	81.81	- 0.54	3.78
Capital	95.112	99.08	- 1.11	2.22
High Income	55.07	57.36	+ 0.29	6.45
Top 50	67.72	70.54	- 1.76	2.28
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	207.85	216.53	- 3.09	4.45
Long Gilt	47.57	49.53†	+ 0.41	5.67
Monthly Inc Plus	54.60	56.88	+ 0.41	7.88
Preference Share	51.28	53.42†	+ 0.13	7.30
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	150.44	156.72†	- 2.10	5.72
Managed Fund	85.26	88.82	- 0.65	2.55
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	50.31	52.41	- 0.35	1.62
-do- Accum	60.16	62.67	- 0.41	1.62
UK & General	115.81	120.65	- 2.38	2.33
-do- Accum	153.54	159.95	- 3.15	2.33
UK Growth	225.13	234.54	- 4.53	1.68
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	257.07	267.81	- 1.09	0.50
Far Eastern Grth	139.21	145.03	+ 1.62	0.19
Global Bond	72.10	75.11	- 0.20	6.84
Japan Growth	111.94	116.62	+ 1.01	
North Amer Gth	293.58	305.84	+ 0.43	
Oriental Growth	88.34	92.03	+ 1.14	0.53
Worldwide Growth	82.95	86.42	- 0.15	0.30
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.78	92.78	+ 0.08	5.69
Homemaker Fund	102.37	108.92	- 1.22	1.98
Quilter Fund	172.30	183.32	- 4.03	1.96
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	39.17	41.66	- 0.26	3.77
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	190.30	202.40	- 2.30	1.84
Income	79.44	84.51†	- 2.70	4.30
European	91.14	96.96	+ 0.60	0.17
Recovery	178.50	189.90	+ 1.30	2.34
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1145.50	1163.90		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	111.60	118.70	- 1.80	1.15
Income #	313.40	333.30	- 3.90	4.13
-do- Accum #	852.10	906.40	- 10.70	4.13
Smaller Cos	216.20	230.00†	- 3.10	1.04
-do- Accum	270.20	287.40	- 3.90	1.04
Gth Portfolio	108.70	115.60	- 1.30	1.23
High Inc Port #	92.77	98.69	- 1.19	4.23
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1814.70	1837.70	- 6.00	0.56
UK Small Cos	2166.50	2257.10	- 20.60	3.04
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	235.10	242.30	- 2.60	
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	199.00	211.70†	- 4.70	1.53
UK High Inc Inc	211.50	225.00	- 4.80	3.17
-do- Accum	294.80	313.60	- 6.80	3.17
UK Pref & F I Inc	62.56	66.44†	+ 0.51	5.57
Emerging Opps	119.00	126.50†	- 2.30	0.75
UK Smlr Cos	70.18	74.65	- 0.70	0.90
Extra Income Inc	53.65	57.04	+ 0.38	6.06
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 525				
Convertibles #	23.70	25.18†	- 0.05	5.56
Enterprise	119.00	126.10†		1.98
Equity Income #	160.30	170.30†	- 3.00	3.76
European	74.54	78.91	+ 0.20	
Financial	68.75	73.06	- 0.66	1.37
Growth & Inc #	327.50	348.00	- 6.50	2.51
High Dist #	201.60	214.20	- 4.00	3.97
International	466.90	496.10†	+ 2.50	0.20
Intl Cap Inc	120.10	128.20†	+ 0.50	2.11
Latin American	42.13	44.76	+ 0.73	
Mgd Gwth Port	95.23	99.38	- 0.62	5.03
Pacific	88.30	93.82	+ 1.48	
Pref High Inc	23.82	25.31†	+ 0.11	7.11
Tokyo	207.60	219.60	+ 0.60	
UK Smaller Cos	240.80	255.60	- 1.30	1.17
Japan Sm Cos	343.50	364.00	- 10.70	
Nth Amer	524.30	564.90†	+ 9.90	0.53
UK Inc & Grth	293.40	313.20	- 5.60	2.37
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Digs	123.94	132.56	- 2.56	0.97
Growth Acc	317.72	338.81	+ 6.47	0.19
Income	610.05	651.84†		5.88
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	255.60	271.90	- 2.00	0.97
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	111.37	117.23	+ 2.02	1.42
Ethical Tst	54.07	56.92	- 0.77	0.70
Far Eastern	311.61	328.01†	+ 0.70	1.48
High Income	159.37	167.76	- 0.43	4.46
UK Index Trckng	63.28	66.61	- 0.14	2.63
Intl Growth	155.87	164.07	+ 0.62	1.01
North American	181.59	191.15	+ 5.89	1.50
Pelican	168.83	177.72	- 0.17	2.70
Smaller Cos	69.71	73.38	- 0.47	2.70
Special Sits	91.99	96.83	- 1.00	3.20
Tst of Inv Tsts	240.73	252.37	+ 0.75	1.41
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	119.55	126.84	+ 0.52	
Fd of Inv Tsts	58.01	61.55†	- 0.34	0.47
High Income #	40.06	42.48†	+ 0.15	11.77
Zero & Gl Opps	51.83	55.73	- 0.48	
Zero Preference	47.35	50.24†	+ 0.14	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	110.00	117.00†	- 2.50	2.22
United Charities	327.70	348.60	- 7.70	1.80
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		6.20
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	25.91	26.86†	- 0.24	5.44
Strategic Inc	28.92	30.23†	- 0.03	5.62
Income Funds				
High Income	29.52	31.01†	- 0.11	4.97
Income Plus	155.42	165.35	- 1.60	3.62
European Income	59.93	63.73	- 0.71	2.13
MoneyBuilder Gwth	36.56	38.88	- 0.56	2.15
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	53.68	57.26	+ 0.86	
American	396.20	420.90	+ 5.10	.
Amer Spec Sits	233.90	249.00	+ 2.40	
Japan Smaller Cos	26.58	28.27	- 0.22	
European	273.20	290.50	- 1.90	0.47
European Opps	102.30	108.90	- 0.50	0.52
Global Pm	38.15	40.57	+ 0.16	0.40
UK Growth	141.70	150.70	- 2.30	1.29
Growth & Inc	206.30	219.40†	- 3.20	2.18
Intl PEP	57.63	61.28†	- 0.15	1.13
Japan Spec Sits	81.52	86.37	- 0.41	
Japan	186.30	197.60†	+ 1.10	
Managed Intl	433.90	461.00	+ 4.00	0.52
MoneyBuilder Plus	74.63	79.36†	- 0.73	
Recovery	65.68	69.85	- 0.32	1.95
South E Asia	203.40	216.80	+ 3.10	0.89
Special Sits	798.30	848.80	- 3.90	0.52
Specialty Funds				
Cash Accum Units	120.19	120.19	+ 0.11	6.30
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	170.80	172.90	- 0.10	1.60
Finsbury Pfd Inc #	103.70	104.40		6.32
Cap Protd	193.50	195.40	+ 1.10	0.08
General Opps	158.90	162.20	- 0.80	2.11
Growth Inc	44.32	44.76	- 1.03	1.65
Private Portfolio	550.30	556.60	+ 0.20	1.11
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	165.60	176.40	- 2.40	
High Income	23.72	25.09	- 0.70	8.97
Japan Smlr Cos	16.45	17.48	- 0.24	
US Smaller Cos	486.90	517.30	+ 2.80	.
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775611				
American Growth	95.02	100.80	+ 1.23	
-do- Accum	95.02	100.80	+ 1.23	
Asian Smlr Cos	719.20	767.80	- 1.90	
-do- Accum	734.70	784.30	- 2.00	.
Capital Tst	392.60	417.70	+ 3.10	1.26
-do- Accum	580.00	617.00	+ 4.70	1.26
Gond Smllr Cos	63.80	68.12†	- 1.07	0.97
-do- Accum	68.46	73.10†	- 1.15	0.97
Convertible	140.70	149.70†	- 0.80	5.38
-do- Accum	318.80	339.10†	- 1.80	5.39
Emerging Markets	79.80	85.26	+ 0.94	0.54
-do- Accum	80.44	85.94	+ 0.95	0.54
European	183.30	194.58	- 0.70	0.40
-do- Accum	194.80	206.40	- 0.70	0.40
Extra Income	433.20	468.90†	- 6.30	4.02
-do- Accum	713.60	759.10†	- 10.63	4.02
Financial	219.10	233.10	+ 0.80	0.94
-do- Accum	234.60	249.60	+ 0.70	0.94
Gilt Trust	63.68	65.66	+ 0.13	7.04
-do- Accum	102.10	105.20	+ 0.20	7.04
Health Fund Inc	274.00	292.70	+ 2.30	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	274.00	292.70	+ 2.30	
Income & Growth	255.60	271.90	- 3.80	4.08
-do- Accum	418.20	444.90	- 6.40	4.08
Intl Growth	475.80	506.70	+ 0.20	. .
-do- Accum	528.30	562.60	+ 0.20	
Japan & Gen	163.90	174.00	+ 0.30	
-do- Accum	165.80	175.70	+ 0.30	
Monthly Inc #	221.80	236.00†	- 2.60	4.26
-do- Accum #	228.00	242.60†	- 2.60	4.26
Managed Port Inc	132.50	139.50	+ 1.00	1.28
-do- Accum	145.70	152.40	+ 1.00	1.28
Quarterly Income #	61.06	65.34	- 0.97	5.07
-do- Accum #	72.12	77.17	- 1.17	5.07
Recovery	349.00	373.30†	- 0.40	
-do- Accum	412.00	440.60†	- 0.50	
UK Growth	73.15	77.82	- 1.59	1.79
-do- Accum	80.82	85.98	- 1.75	1.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	77.31	82.18	+ 1.02	
FP Am Smllr Cos	218.00	232.50	+ 0.80	
FP Asian Growth	300.00	320.00	+ 3.20	.
FP Australian	463.70	494.60	+ 5.80	
FP Equity Dist	525.40	560.40	- 13.60	2.10
-do- Accum	1185.00	1264.00	- 31.00	2.10
FP Euro Gth	362.80	386.90	- 3.10	. . .
-do- Accum	397.50	422.90	- 3.30	
FP Intl Bond	56.11	59.37	+ 0.22	3.92
FP Intl Gth Dist	44.05	46.98	- 0.14	
-do- Accum	64.70	69.01	- 0.20	
FP Pac Basn Acc	235.00	250.60	+ 2.30	.
FP Income #	65.99	70.38†	- 1.27	4.43
-do- Accum #	239.40	255.30	- 5.00	4.43
FP Jap Smllr Cos	240.30	256.30	- 3.80	
FP Monthly Dist #	82.39	87.87†	- 0.73	4.87
FP Stlg Deposit	100.30	100.30†	+ 0.10	5.19
FP Tokyo	79.26	84.54	+ 0.67	
FP UK Focus	49.65	52.96	- 1.40	1.47
FP UK Growth	233.00	248.50†	- 6.00	1.70
-do- Accum	479.60	511.50	- 12.30	1.70
Stewardship Dist	453.40	483.60	- 4.20	1.49
-do- Accum	576.80	615.20	- 5.30	1.49
Stwrdshp Inc Dist #	77.49	82.65	- 1.07	5.07
-do- Accum #	109.50	116.70	- 1.50	5.07
N Am Stshp Dist	158.70	168.60	+ 2.30	.
-do- Accum	170.20	181.50	+ 2.50	.
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	116.90	117.40†	- 1.90	2.90
Inst Ethical Ac #	118.20	118.70	- 1.90	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	145.40	154.60	- 1.90	0.49
Open Cap Gth Acc	147.40	156.80	- 1.60	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	130.50	138.80	- 1.10	2.64
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	139.80	148.70	- 1.10	2.64
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	134.80	143.30	- 1.00	3.59
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	146.00	155.30	- 1.10	3.59
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 108/7				
GANDA	346.10	367.20	- 5.20	1.57
Cash	49.70	50.44	+ 0.06	4.52
Growth Portfolio	105.10	111.80	+ 0.50	
Income Portfolio	83.69	88.80	+ 0.02	2.78
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	232.70	248.90†	+ 3.60	0.52
Dividend	111.30	119.00†	- 1.80	3.78
Intl Gth & Inc	278.30	297.70†	- 4.60	1.33
UK & Gen	55.19	59.03	- 0.79	1.15
Fund of Funds	82.14	87.85	- 0.97	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	238.40	254.50	+ 0.90	0.13
European Gth	858.40	913.40	- 16.00	0.52
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	59.08	62.51	- 0.26	3.82
-do- Accum	67.85	71.78	- 0.30	3.82
High Yield #	53.00	56.01	+ 0.12	7.32
-do- Accum #	61.26	64.73	+ 0.14	7.32
Income Inc	219.50	234.80	- 1.40	3.68
-do- Accum	254.90	272.70	- 1.60	3.68
Intl Growth	418.90	444.40	+ 4.40	0.28
Intl Income	109.80	116.10	+ 0.40	2.04
Japan Growth	452.10	478.80	- 0.20	.
Orient Acc	224.20	238.80	+ 2.20	0.13
UK General Inc	211.20	225.70	- 2.10	1.55
UK General Acc	379.10	405.20	- 3.80	1.55
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	61.93	66.24	- 0.06	1.75
UK Spec Sits	114.50	122.50	- 0.90	1.34
US Growth	236.00	249.50	+ 4.80	
Wrlde Spec Sits	178.80	190.00	+ 1.00	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Digs only 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	68.17	72.83	- 1.55	1.99
Practical Inv Inc #	137.26	146.60	- 0.48	3.28
-do- Accum #	333.61	356.80	- 1.17	3.28
UK Index	211.73	212.79	- 4.00	2.94
UK Smaller Cos	219.64	234.91	- 2.28	0.46
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.62	26.56†	+ 0.14	6.93
High Income	39.63	42.25	- 0.38	3.86
UK Growth & Inc	183.50	196.06	- 2.46	2.36
Global Bond	27.25	28.25†	- 0.05	4.85
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	54.32	58.10	+ 0.56	.
Global Managed	164.90	175.14	+ 0.84	1.06
Gold & Intl Res	101.82	108.90†	+ 0.86	
Global Utilities	171.91	183.24†	- 1.91	0.62
Overseas Funds				
American	242.22	256.33	+ 2.38	0.49
European	165.69	175.95	- 1.71	0.48
Euro Sel Opps	256.84	273.20†	- 2.84	.
Amer Emerging	193.43	205.87	+ 2.03	
Hong Kong	226.69	242.62	+ 1.34	0.77
Japan	214.70	227.73†	- 0.64	. .
Pacific Growth	237.50	254.87†	+ 2.31	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	290.76	290.76†	- 3.23	1.62
Long Term Bal	308.51	308.51†	- 2.60	2.67
Med Term Bal	247.67	247.67†	- 3.94	2.83
UK Equity	346.83	346.83	- 5.07	2.23
UK Emerging Cos	177.68	177.68†	- 0.44	2.26
American	413.46	413.46	+ 3.97	0.32
Japan	125.00	125.00	+ 0.51	.
European	431.56	431.56	- 4.93	0.62
Index Linked Gilt	195.75	195.75†	- 0.48	2.64
Fixed Interest	193.73	193.73	+ 1.20	6.86
Amer Emerging	422.23	422.23	+ 2.17	
Pacific	228.73	228.73†	+ 2.58	0.79
Emerging Mkts	149.84	149.84	+ 1.35	0.66
Index Strat Japan	131.90	131.90†	+ 0.48	0.21
-do- Pacific Rim	309.47	309.47†	+ 3.03	1.08
-do- Cont Europe	233.43	233.43†	- 0.10	1.14
Index Strat USA	247.47	247.47†	+ 3.28	1.63
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	137.44	146.21	- 1.62	
Med Term Bal	118.66	126.23	- 2.00	
Cash Trust	151.46	151.46	+ 0.13	5.97
Long Term Bal	137.69	146.48	- 3.06	
UK Equity	162.61	172.98	- 2.52	
UK Emerging Cos	83.85	89.20	- 0.22	
American	192.01	204.27	+ 1.97	
Japan	59.81	63.62	+ 0.26	
European	179.66	191.12	- 2.19	
Fixed Interest	100.32	106.71	+ 0.57	
Index Linked Gilt	87.30	92.87	- 0.23	
Deposit	91.52	97.36	+ 0.17	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	170.25	179.21	- 1.53	0.47
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	759.57	808.05	+ 2.62	0.61
-do- Accum	862.19	917.22	+ 2.98	0.61
European Inc	208.51	221.46	+ 0.18	1.01
Amalgam Inc	185.26	197.09	+ 2.86	
N America Inc	483.43	514.29	- 3.20	
Far East Inc	387.17	411.88	+ 1.75	0.50
-do- Accum	401.84	427.49	- 1.85	0.50
UK Dlvd Inc	223.56	237.83	- 3.78	1.27
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	134.26	143.07	- 1.23	
Do NAV to Jan 20	129.82	129.82		
UK Equity Safeguard	106.29	112.59	- 0.54	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	101.73	101.73		
Cash	959.76	964.56	+ 1.00	5.50
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	341.40	363.20†	- 7.80	1.79
British Growth	78.40	83.87	- 0.66	1.43
UK Small Cos	71.62	76.58	+ 0.79	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	93.05	99.51	- 0.45	2.11
Geared UK Index	2139.78	2258.92†	- 100.00	5.25
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	106.79	114.20	- 0.29	4.24
Corp Bd	81.57	84.27	- 0.31	
Monthly Inc	41.46	44.21†	- 0.19	8.58
International Funds				
American Gen	294.40	311.50	- 8.50	
American Strat	246.52	263.65	- 2.97	
JG US Index	2248.81	2369.50†	+ 47.00	4.00
European Gen	329.60	348.00	- 1.60	0.71
European Strat	139.98	149.59	- 1.51	.
Japan Gen	151.30	160.10	+ 1.70	
Japan Strat	50.49	53.76	- 1.02	
Asia Pacific	101.40	108.44	+ 0.76	
Pacific Strat	172.21	184.17	+ 0.39	
Greater China	307.73	329.11	+ 5.37	
Latin America	128.41	137.32	- 0.47	
Int Growth	179.39	191.85	+ 0.23	
Balanced Exempt	154.40	159.60	- 2.80	2.39
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9668				
European	705.60	753.80†	- 1.10	
Gilt & Fixed	137.90	146.30	+ 0.60	5.15
Growth Equity	497.30	522.70	- 12.10	1.31
Income Trust	169.40	180.90†	- 3.50	3.90
International	224.30	236.50	- 0.40	
Japan Trust	118.90	127.00†	+ 0.70	
Nth American	437.00	466.20	+ 6.20	
Pacific	581.70	621.40	- 1.00	0.66
Guardhill	725.30	769.50	- 19.80	1.22
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	94.22	97.79	- 1.16	5.17
Global High Inc	93.62	97.18	+ 0.08	5.30
Corporate Bond	109.93	114.11	- 0.39	6.72
Eqty & Bond Inc	127.58	131.39	- 1.00	4.98
European Growth	156.10	165.97	- 3.64	
Intl PEP Trust	85.14	90.52	- 0.40	0.92
Equity Inc	160.98	171.16	- 0.53	3.53
-do- Accum	242.21	257.53	- 1.40	3.53
Recovery	454.50	483.20	- 7.30	3.34
-do- Accum	547.00	581.50	- 9.30	3.34
St Vinc High Int	139.37	140.34	- 2.31	6.96
UK Emerg Cos	294.00	312.50	- 5.80	1.40
UK Smlr Cos	401.70	408.90†	- 6.10	3.53
Glob Prw Tst	149.70	159.17	- 2.36	0.94
-do- Accum	155.64	165.49	- 2.45	0.94
Inc Share Tst	97.37	103.53	+ 0.29	8.29
Small Cos	98.26	104.46	- 1.76	1.94
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	60.73	64.45†	- 0.55	3.17
Balanced Acc	66.31	70.31	- 0.60	3.17
Growth	37.99	40.28	- 0.65	1.81
Growth Acc	39.56	41.95	- 0.68	1.81
Income	35.50	37.64†	- 0.47	4.07
Income Acc	39.00	41.35	- 0.54	4.07
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	31.27	33.08	- 0.56	2.23
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 360				
High Provider	103.70	107.10†	+ 0.60	6.38
Model Ptolio	279.90	294.40	- 5.70	2.01
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Port Acc	48.64	51.61	- 0.38	2.95
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	390.87	407.52	- 4.41	0.49
Best of British	83.42	88.66	- 1.12	2.03
UK Smaller Cos	152.54	163.57	- 1.18	1.05
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	354.59	377.61	- 6.39	3.55
-do- Accum #	1030.75	1097.70	- 15.69	3.55
High Income	386.32	412.97†	- 2.84	4.17
Extra Income #	327.49	348.22†	- 2.38	6.15
Pref & Bond	51.62	53.34†	+ 0.32	8.00
International				
Ethical	131.10	140.29	- 1.07	1.48
International	377.75	401.50	+ 0.27	
Global Bond	62.89	66.89†	- 0.04	4.82
Intl Port Tst	110.78	117.94	- 1.12	0.29
Global Tech	255.18	272.19	+ 4.01	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	202.03	216.04†	+ 0.78	0.30
European	761.59	807.78	- 5.28	0.40
European Income #	107.46	113.863	- 0.62	2.97
Euro Smlr Cos	216.39	230.91	- 5.46	0.42
European Value	108.29	115.53	- 1.43	
-do- Accum	116.56	124.76	- 1.56	
Japan Trust	195.65	208.18†	- 4.89	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Smllr Cos	173.63	184.62	- 4.29	. .
Pacific Smlr Cos	242.53	258.39	+ 3.57	
North American	403.51	427.78†	+ 2.92	
American Smaller	205.64	218.80	+ 0.80	. . .
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	177.10	186.59	+ 1.00	4.57
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	145.18	152.02	- 3.55	1.42
Capital	231.40	242.30	- 3.15	1.10
Dollar	620.63	650.08	+ 14.51	. . .
Enterprise Gth	455.27	476.72	- 11.79	0.69
European	334.02	349.76†	+ 9.07	
Far East	302.17	316.41	+ 3.60	0.58
Financial	1322.66	1384.98	- 17.38	1.14
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.51	28.61†	+ 0.15	6.47
High Yield #	127.46	133.46	- 2.90	4.42
Income & Growth #	192.03	201.08	- 4.18	3.23
International	335.20	358.99†	+ 1.63	0.27
Japanese General	186.86	195.66	- 8.20	. . .
Japan Tech	89.83	94.07	- 0.41	
Nat Resources	75.56	79.12	- 0.26	0.42
Portfolio	91.70	96.03	- 1.45	1.83
Special Sits	223.32	233.85	- 3.63	0.20
UK Emerging Cos	126.88	132.86	- 0.92	1.30
US Smaller Cos	175.97	184.26†	+ 0.02	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	730.80	779.90†	- 14.98	4.87
UK Growth	816.40	871.30	- 20.60	1.75
High Income #	130.90	139.70†	- 1.60	5.86
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	790.40	835.00	+ 9.20	0.25
European Gwth	188.30	200.10	- 0.39	. .
Japan Gwth	276.70	294.30	+ 1.20	
Japan Smllr Cos	28.37	30.28	- 0.58	
Asian	64.61	68.95	+ 0.93	0.07
Sing & Malay Gwth	83.40	89.01	+ 4.69	
Hong Kong Gwth	234.90	250.60	+ 5.20	0.13
Global Bond	20.53	21.63†	- 0.04	4.85
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	196.70	197.70†	- 3.70	3.13
Tristar Index	131.30	134.80	- 0.60	2.58
THE FOOTSIE FUND	80.14	80.54†	- 1.62	2.46
Index Funds-International				
American Index	322.60	374.50	+ 4.20	0.72
Eurotrack 100	245.40	246.60	- 0.10	0.95
Japan Index	69.21	69.56	+ 0.19	0.13
Tiger Index	175.60	179.50	- 3.10	0.65
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	51.88	54.18	+ 1.15	1.50
General Funds				
Managed Dist	99.21	103.60	- 0.70	0.91
Managed	102.90	107.50	- 0.70	0.91
Rupert Chld Fnd	125.70	131.20	- 2.80	2.11
UK Growth	80.52	84.09	- 1.27	1.50
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	96.77	101.10†	- 1.10	5.45
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.99	28.88†	+ 0.14	7.59
UK Inc & Gwth	55.14	57.59	- 1.22	2.91
UK Income #	421.50	440.20	- 6.80	4.33
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	77.50	80.16	+ 0.98	
Amer Smllr Cos	186.70	194.20†	+ 1.20	
-do- Accum	188.60	196.30†	+ 1.39	.
Europe Gth	287.60	299.40	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	297.90	310.10	+ 0.50	. .
Euro Smaller Cos	49.37	51.40	- 1.83	
French Growth	109.40	113.70	+ 0.60	0.03
-do- Accum	118.40	123.00	+ 0.50	0.03
H Kong & China	152.90	159.30	+ 2.60	0.26
Ind Growth	80.19	83.56	+ 0.50	0.36
-do- Accum	81.71	85.13	+ 0.51	0.36
Japan Gth	27.51	28.67†	+ 0.34	
-do- Accum	27.51	28.67†	+ 0.34	
Japan Smaller Cos	29.40	30.68	- 0.51	
Cloth Emg Mkts	110.50	115.40†	+ 1.10	
-do- Accum	111.30	116.20†	+ 1.10	
SE Asia	373.90	389.50	+ 8.10	
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	48.90	50.40	- 0.12	6.66
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
UK Income #	124.60	132.90	- 3.40	3.07
UK Growth	129.70	138.10	- 3.80	1.53
Hy 5 Europe	116.40	122.40	+ 3.50	1.82
Slater Gwth	202.00	215.50	- 2.60	0.93
New Japan	82.14	86.74	- 1.67	.
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	203.60	216.50†	+ 1.80	
Income #	243.00	258.51†	- 1.84	4.01
UK Growth	92.91	98.83†	- 1.17	1.87
Intl Growth	97.54	103.76†	- 0.76	0.54
Ecology	109.38	116.34	- 0.83	0.75
European	237.40	252.55†	- 3.34	0.30
Far Eastern	342.44	364.29†	+ 1.69	
UK Special Sits	60.16	64.17	- 0.57	0.37
Fd of Inv Tsts	60.00	64.09	- 0.34	0.53
High Income #	56.15	59.89	- 0.75	4.68
Financial Opps	49.02	52.28	- 0.71	.

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	105.50	109.10†	+ 0.50	6.50
Eqty Plw Inc	120.30	128.00†	+ 0.20	2.75
-do- Accum	120.50	128.20†	+ 0.20	2.75
Gilt Yield	123.60	130.30†	+ 0.50	6.21
Global Income	258.10	274.60	+ 0.70	2.92
High Yield	190.00	202.10†	- 1.90	4.61
-do- Accum	646.90	688.20†	- 6.40	4.61
Money Market	100.59	100.59†	+ 0.08	6.13
Smllr Cos Div	63.46	67.51	- 0.49	3.83
Tomorrows Co Er Acc	1098.00	1114.00†	- 20.00	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	183.60	195.30†	+ 0.80	
Asian Growth	319.70	340.10	+ 1.60	.
-do- Accum	375.70	399.70	+ 1.80	.
North American	135.50	144.10†	+ 1.40	.
European Special	151.50	161.20†	- 1.70	1.03
European	216.60	230.40†	+ 1.30	0.56
-do- Accum	288.10	306.50†	+ 1.80	0.56
Global Eqty Inc	137.70	148.40	- 0.30	1.69
Japan	380.90	408.40	+ 4.10	.
Japanese Special	199.80	212.60	- 1.50	
Smaller Cos	150.20	159.90†	- 1.70	0.98
UK Equity Growth	61.22	65.13	- 1.29	1.09
UK Index Inc	386.20	398.20	- 5.70	3.33
Barbara Tst	117.00	125.70†	- 0.70	1.59
-do- Accum	119.00	127.90†	- 0.60	1.59
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	352.78	375.30	- 1.74	4.40
Eqt Growth	114.10	121.38		1.24
Inc & Growth	77.62	82.57†	- 1.16	3.63
Smaller Cos	96.66	102.83	- 1.62	1.23
Ever Spec Sit Inc	99.70	63.51	- 0.39	1.81
Ever Spec Sit Acc	62.64	66.64	- 0.42	1.81
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	520.30	557.00	- 7.40	1.58
UK Inc Gth #	557.20	591.80	- 7.70	3.24
UK Income #	390.30	414.10	- 5.30	4.14
UK Sm Cos	300.60	321.50	- 1.40	1.83
Euro Gwth	189.00	200.50	- 0.40	0.14
N Amer Gwth	148.70	157.70	+ 3.50	.
Pacific Growth	11.97	12.70†	- 0.29	0.37
Emg Mkts Gwth	93.14	98.82	- 1.24	
Japan Growth	55.37	58.69	+ 0.18	
Dealing: 01277 842625				
Gwth Port Inc	77.96	84.39	- 1.09	0.63
Gwth Port Acc	81.31	85.82	- 1.09	0.62
Inc Port Inc	70.45	74.35	- 0.61	3.66
Inc Port Acc	80.60	85.07†	- 0.67	3.56
Trinity Port	65.05	68.65	- 0.60	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 305				
Equity Dist	692.30	692.30	- 13.50	2.34
-do- Accum	1443.00	1443.00	- 29.00	2.34
Equity Income #	114.10	114.19†	- 1.50	4.89
UK Tactical Assets	80.66	80.66†	- 1.65	4.53
European	176.90	176.80	- 0.70	0.42
Far Eastern	238.00	238.00	+ 1.70	.
Fixed Interest	57.22	57.22	+ 0.25	6.73
Gilt	95.30	95.30	+ 0.36	6.10
Global Growth	91.05	91.03	+ 0.20	0.20
Intl Bond	48.54	48.54	- 0.15	4.68
Japanese	69.29	69.29	+ 0.14	
North American	275.90	275.90†	+ 3.80	0.25
Pacific Growth	127.60	127.60	+ 1.30	0.13
Pacific Index	48.75	48.75	+ 0.65	1.74
UK Index	90.51	90.51	- 1.67	2.87
UK Recovery	127.10	127.10	- 2.10	1.85
UK Smaller Cos	160.00	160.00†	- 0.70	1.53
US Index	108.30	108.30†	+ 1.30	0.97
European Index	112.50	112.50	0.20	0.99
Japan Index	35.55	35.55†	+ 0.09	.
Worldwide	110.83	110.83	- 0.80	1.30
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	65.98	70.43	- 1.38	2.00
Income	76.44	81.75†	- 1.07	3.85
Far East	48.59	51.96	.	
North American	161.90	172.50	+ 1.50	
Global	103.50	110.60	- 0.80	0.29
European	120.70	128.80	- 0.10	0.62
Japan	88.73	94.62†	- 0.65	
Intl Currency Bd	55.93	59.13	- 0.07	5.42
SE Asia	100.63	107.50	+ 0.39	0.40
UK Cap Growth	118.60	126.83	- 2.70	1.31
Recovery Trust	97.29	104.80	+ 1.00	1.92
Managed	79.90	85.45	- 0.56	1.53
Cash	50.96	50.36	+ 0.05	5.09
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 333 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	477.80	508.40	- 11.80	1.95
-do- Accum	1153.00	1227.00	- 28.00	1.95
Cont Eur Gth	96.26	101.40	+ 0.40	
-do- Accum	104.20	109.80	+ 0.40	.
Extra Inc #	327.40	348.30	- 8.70	3.78
Extra Inc Acc #	929.50	987.70	- 24.30	3.78
FTSE 100 Inc	151.50	161.20	- 4.40	1.98
FTSE 100 Acc	158.20	168.40	- 4.50	1.98
German Gth	172.40	181.50	+ 1.00	
-do- Accum	180.80	190.40	+ 1.00	
Growth Port	748.30	796.10	- 3.40	0.08
-do- Accum	779.80	829.60	- 3.50	0.08
High Interest Inc	106.73	110.60†	+ 0.90	6.97
High Interest Acc	118.20	122.50	+ 0.90	6.97
HI Reserve Inc #	117.50	125.10	- 1.20	5.74
HI Reserve Acc #	132.70	141.20	- 1.40	5.74
Income Inc #	650.80	692.40	- 18.10	3.22
Income Acc #	1989.00	2010.50	- 52.00	3.22

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income Port	834.00	874.50†	- 15.70	4.10
-do- Accum	736.00	783.00	- 12.50	4.10
Japan Growth	95.51	101.70	+ 0.30	. .
-do- Accum	95.85	102.00	+ 0.20	
Master Trust	74.45	79.21†	- 0.98	0.96
-do- Accum	87.47	93.06	- 1.16	0.96
Millennium Acc	111.20	118.30	+ 1.00	2.04
N American Gen	308.10	327.80	+ 6.80	.
-do- Accum	356.60	379.40	+ 7.30	.
NAm Sm Co Rec	212.30	225.90	+ 0.70	. . .
-do- Accum	216.70	230.60	+ 0.80	
Pacific Basin	248.90	264.80	+ 3.50	0.30
-do- Accum	265.40	282.40	+ 3.80	0.30
Safety First Acc	108.70	112.40	- 1.50	1.75
Do until 12/5/98 ‡	99.27			
Small Cos Rec	512.70	539.70	+ 9.40	2.10
-do- Accum	713.80	751.40	+ 13.10	2.10
UK Eq Gth	193.30	205.70	- 5.20	2.31
UK Eq Inc #	153.40	163.20	- 4.30	3.82
UK Growth	122.80	130.70†	- 3.29	1.58
-do- Accum	158.80	168.90	- 4.00	1.58
Worldwide Gth	408.30	434.40	+ 1.90	0.24
-do- Accum	604.00	642.60	+ 2.90	0.24
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	111.74	119.49†	+ 1.06	0.50
General	125.47	134.51	- 3.11	2.38
Income	84.19	90.33	- 1.86	4.60
International	83.48	89.57†	+ 0.17	0.38
Japan	54.58	58.42	+ 0.30	.
Tst of Inv Trusts	84.89	91.06	- 0.35	0.90
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	637.20	672.80	+ 12.80	0.08
-do- Accum	798.40	843.10	+ 15.20	0.08
Amer Recovery	755.60	799.80	+ 15.40	. . .
-do- Accum	873.90	924.00	+ 17.70	. . .
Amer Smlr Cos	182.50	193.00†	- 1.30	. .
-do- Accum	186.40	197.30†	- 1.30	. .
Australasian	220.10	232.80	+ 1.90	1.98
-do- Accum	279.10	295.20	+ 1.90	1.98
Capital	1025.20	1084.10	- 13.70	2.83
-do- Accum	1236.80	1307.90	- 16.50	2.83
Charifund	879.40	888.20	- 8.50	5.40
-do- Accum	4707.40	4754.50	- 47.70	5.40
Commodity	458.30	484.70	+ 2.30	0.54
-do- Accum	677.70	716.70	+ 3.30	0.54
Compound Gwth	1217.20	1287.20	- 17.30	2.73
-do- Accum	1361.20	1439.50	- 19.40	2.73
Corporate Bond	27.83	27.72†	+ 0.15	6.60
Dividend	48.40	51.20	- 0.60	4.64
-do- Accum	223.10	236.00	- 2.80	4.64
Equity Income	345.30	365.20	- 3.00	5.38
-do- Accum	489.20	517.50	- 4.20	5.38
Euro & General	746.00	788.90†	+ 2.40	0.41
-do- Accum	962.80	1018.20†	+ 3.10	0.41
Euro Dividend	90.10	95.30†	- 2.70	3.47
-do- Accum	118.00	124.90†	- 0.80	3.47
Euro Smlr Cos	56.30	59.50	- 1.10	0.50
-do- Accum	56.50	59.70	- 1.10	0.50
Extra Yield	521.70	551.70	- 6.10	4.94
-do- Accum	1790.80	1894.00	- 20.80	4.94
Fund of Inv Tsts	769.60	813.90	- 3.30	1.30
-do- Accum	1501.40	1587.80	- 6.50	1.30
General	79.60	84.20†	- 1.10	3.65
-do- Accum	241.80	256.00†	- 3.40	3.65
Gilt Income	66.97	66.17	+ 0.32	6.20
-do- Accum	208.81	209.15	+ 1.03	6.20
Gold	53.70	58.80†	+ 0.40	1.07
-do- Accum	64.70	68.40†	+ 0.40	1.07
High Income	36.60	38.70†	- 0.50	4.57
-do- Accum	162.80	172.20†	- 2.50	4.57
Intl Growth	100.00	105.80		0.56
-do- Accum	177.20	187.40		0.56
International Inc	123.80	130.90	- 0.10	4.04
-do- Accum	201.30	212.90	- 0.10	4.04
Japan & Gen	35.10	37.10	- 0.50	. .
-do- Accum	37.70	39.80	- 0.50	. .
Japan Smlr Cos	120.00	126.80	- 2.50	. .
-do- Accum	120.80	127.70	- 2.50	. .
Managed Gwth	28.70	30.30†	- 0.10	1.45
Managed Income	32.40	34.00†	- 0.30	4.23
Midland	58.30	61.70	- 0.10	3.38
-do- Accum	207.40	219.50	- 0.40	3.38
Pension Ex	1199.20	1229.30	- 15.90	3.77
Recovery	49.80	52.70†	- 0.50	2.67
-do- Accum	87.80	92.90†	- 0.90	2.67
Second General	77.90	82.40†	- 1.20	4.08
-do- Accum	218.50	231.00†	- 3.50	4.08
Smaller Cos	63.60	67.30	- 0.50	3.39
-do- Accum	133.80	141.50	- 1.10	3.39
Sth East Asia	409.80	433.40	+ 6.10	1.01
-do- Accum	548.90	581.50	+ 8.10	1.01
Treasury	25.07	25.12†	- 0.09	6.22
Trustee	47.80	50.30	- 0.70	4.68
-do- Accum	211.00	223.40	- 2.90	4.68
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	125.28	133.27	- 0.36	0.19
Intl Bond	60.81	63.89	- 0.13	3.89
Intl Equity Growth	98.00	104.13	+ 0.06	0.40
N Amer Growth	168.43	178.72	+ 1.49	0.56
Special Sits Growth	31.93	33.96	- 0.69	2.05
UK Growth	533.08	567.10	- 12.06	2.47
-do- Accum	743.59	791.05	- 16.82	2.47
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01820 825857				
Balanced Fd #	1551.90	1573.60	- 7.40	2.70
Income #	1126.80	1144.40†	- 10.10	4.50

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	185.90	189.80†	. .	3.63
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Inc #	101.10	104.30	- 0.10	6.63
M & S Inv Ptolio	200.70	208.90†	- 0.90	2.12
-do- Accum	243.20	250.70†	- 1.10	2.12
UK Sel Ptolio	183.40	189.00†	- 2.40	2.15
-do- Accum	225.60	232.60†	- 2.90	2.15
UK 100 Cos	144.30	144.30	- 2.00	2.31
-do- Accum	147.90	147.90	- 2.10	2.31
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	73.17	77.84	+ 0.22	3.10
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4846				
Intl Income	96.37	102.30†	- 0.60	1.38
European	123.00	130.60	- 0.70	0.32
Income #	97.28	103.30	- 1.30	3.97
Nth American	120.10	127.50†	+ 0.80	0.04
Far East	199.80	212.10†	+ 1.10	0.15
Japan	66.34	70.42	+ 0.43	.
Emgng Mkts	105.10	112.40	+ 0.80	
Intl Growth	156.90	166.60	+ 1.00	0.25
UK Growth	136.40	144.80	- 3.40	2.21
UK Smllr Co	61.33	65.11	- 0.11	2.12
Asia Pacific	41.88	44.79†	+ 0.01	0.45
Glob Gwth PEP	74.30	78.87	- 0.04	0.57
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7432				
Select Portfolio	113.40	120.70	- 0.90	.
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Income	550.69	585.20	- 9.33	3
Global Inc	85.35	90.80	- 0.39	3.31
Brit Leaders Inc	434.44	462.17	- 6.94	1.56
Intl Leaders	275.66	293.26	+ 0.21	0.60
PAM Mg Bal Grth	75.70	78.81	- 0.22	0.34
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	342.70	361.20	+ 3.50	
-do- Accum	366.40	386.10	+ 3.70	.
American Opps	133.50	141.80	- 1.30	
-do- Accum	135.20	143.60	- 1.30	
British Blue Chip	114.50	121.50	- 2.70	2.48
-do- Accum	149.30	158.50	- 3.50	2.48
Cash	100.10	100.10†	- 1.10	6.08
-do- Accum	153.70	153.70†	+ 0.20	6.08
Emerging Mkts	167.00	173.10†	+ 1.70	0.60
-do- Accum	163.20	175.59†	+ 1.70	0.60
European Growth	400.00	423.40	- 3.10	0.45
-do- Accum	436.10	461.70	- 3.30	0.45
European Income	99.13	104.80†	- 0.30	3.91
-do- Accum	147.30	155.80†	- 0.40	3.91
General	678.30	721.10	- 16.20	2.19
-do- Accum	1406.00	1495.00	- 33.00	2.19
Global Bond	125.80	132.10	- 0.30	3.40
-do- Accum	170.50	179.60	- 0.20	3.40
Gold & General	153.90	164.80†	- 0.10	0.44
-do- Accum	159.30	170.60†	- 0.10	0.44
Govt Securities	97.59	100.60†	+ 0.40	5.45
-do- Accum	214.80	221.40†	+ 0.80	5.45
High Yield Bd	106.20	108.70†	+ 0.40	6.49
-do- Accum	117.50	120.40†	+ 0.60	6.49
Income	216.30	231.90	- 4.90	3.88
-do- Accum	372.60	395.70	- 8.50	3.88
Inc Portfolio #	122.50	129.60†	- 1.60	4.94
-do- Accum #	138.30	146.30†	- 1.90	4.94
Intl Opps	633.70	675.90†	- 3.80	0.73
-do- Accum	861.00	918.40†	- 5.00	0.73
Japan	178.00	188.80	+ 0.80	.
-do- Accum	182.70	194.90	+ 0.90	
New Europe	274.60	292.90	- 0.20	0.96
-do- Accum	288.30	307.50	- 0.10	0.96
Pacific	116.30	124.10†	+ 1.30	0.44
-do- Accum	125.90	133.98†	+ 1.40	0.44
Recovery	519.80	550.35	- 5.50	1.65
-do- Accum	686.70	732.50	- 7.80	1.65
UK Smaller Cos	62.53	66.70	+ 0.10	1.52
-do- Accum	72.35	77.17	+ 0.10	1.52
Portfolio	104.40	110.70	- 1.60	2.64
-do- Accum	130.80	138.60	- 1.60	2.64
Managed Gth	136.40	142.90†	- 1.50	1.77
Managed Inc	131.20	136.10†	- 1.60	3.56
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	188.14	200.15	- 0.88	0.12
Portfolio	91.63	97.48†	- 1.20	1.23
UK Income Inc	107.91	114.80	- 1.75	4.12
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	77.49	81.14	- 0.88	2.56
-do- Accum	86.72	90.81	- 0.98	2.55
British Tst	127.70	133.75	- 4.10	1.95
-do- Accum	156.10	163.50	- 5.00	1.95
Corp Bond Inc	103.50	107.30	+ 0.40	6.38
-do- Accum	110.30	114.30	+ 0.40	6.38
Extra High Inc	72.01	81.63†	- 0.44	6.26
-do- Accum #	175.20	183.50†	- 1.80	6.26
FTSE 100 Acc	86.74	90.83†	- 2.09	2.48
FTSE 100 Dist	79.84	83.60†	- 1.92	2.48
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.95	60.39	+ 0.19	6.29
-do- Accum	192.30	190.90	+ 0.70	6.29
High Yield	267.80	280.40	- 3.10	5.31
-do- Accum #	768.20	804.40	- 8.70	5.31
Household Names	118.50	111.10	- 2.20	1.29
Income	375.10	392.80	- 10.20	4.06
-do- Accum #	894.80	937.00	- 24.40	4.06
Money Market UT	49.77	49.79	+ 0.05	5.62
-do- Accum	86.11	86.13	+ 0.09	5.62

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Monthly Income	107.10	112.10†	- 1.30	4.30
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	163.70	174.20†	- 4.10	1.90
European Growth	171.50	181.80†	+ 2.70	
Gilt & Fixed	108.20	114.80†	+ 0.40	6.12
Income	122.70	130.50†	- 2.30	3.96
Japan Growth	44.99	47.69†	- 0.49	. . .
Managed	94.59	100.60†	- 1.60	2.38
Money Market	98.97	105.40†	+ 0.20	5.18
North American	137.30	145.60†	- 0.70	. .
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	148.50	158.00†	- 3.60	1.90
European Growth	160.90	170.50†	+ 2.50	.
Gilt & Fixed Int	101.30	107.50†	+ 0.40	6.12
Income	120.10	127.80†	- 2.10	3.96
Japan Growth	44.88	47.56†	- 0.47	. .
Managed	90.93	96.73†	- 1.01	2.36
Money Market	91.54	97.05†	+ 0.12	5.18
North American	123.10	130.40†	- 0.70	.
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	147.30	156.70†	- 3.70	1.90
European Growth	157.20	166.70†	+ 2.50	.
Gilt & Fixed Inf	91.16	96.70†	+ 0.30	6.13
Income	117.00	124.50†	- 2.10	3.95
Japan Growth	46.12	48.88†	- 0.51	.
Managed	93.76	99.74†	- 1.06	2.36
Money Market	82.93	87.92†	+ 0.09	5.19
North American	138.00	146.30†	- 1.30	.
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	574.80	608.30†	+ 6.80	. . .
European Gth Inc	644.10	685.20†	- 4.00	. . .
-do- Accum	651.20	692.80†	- 3.90	. . .
Intl Gwth	274.80	290.80	+ 0.40	. . .
UK Equity Inc	246.80	262.50	- 4.70	3.94
Do. Accum	341.60	363.70	- 6.40	3.94
UK Growth Inc	144.30	154.70	- 2.50	3.09
-do- Accum	148.80	159.50	- 2.60	3.09
UK Intl Trdr Inc	229.00	244.50	- 4.40	2.74
-do- Accum	286.20	305.50	- 5.60	2.74
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	359.90	380.40	+ 4.70	0.85
Japan Tracker	84.63	88.18	+ 0.32	. .
Asian Tracker	233.60	252.30	+ 4.90	0.28
Mngd Ptolio Inc	208.70	222.40†	- 1.90	1.60
Mngd Ptolio Acc	231.00	246.20†	- 2.10	1.60
Deposit Inc	100.17	100.17†	+ 0.09	6.42
Europe	265.30	283.60	- 5.80	. .
Genesis	209.80	228.20	- 2.40	2.49
High Income	21.06	22.33†	- 0.14	10.00
Japan Growth	97.08	102.90	+ 0.80	. .
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
Accumn	120.59	123.10	- 1.20	1.87
Accumn Inc	108.50	110.70	- 1.20	1.87
Accmin Reserve	103.30	104.90†	+ 0.50	6.80
-do- Inc	76.50	77.27†	+ 0.41	6.89
American Growth	83.39	85.71	- 1.09	.
Equity Income #	121.80	124.90†	- 2.20	3.72
European	97.90	98.81	- 2.19	.
Smaller Cos	97.87	102.40	- 0.80	1.10
W'wide Eqty	90.42	92.23	- 0.22	. .
Global Bond	41.24	41.68	+ 0.13	4.65
UK Growth	129.30	132.30	- 2.30	0.87
Pacific Growth	120.80	123.00†	+ 2.20	0.91
Japan Growth	98.49	100.20†	- 0.10	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	173.51	184.58†	- 2.36	2.27
For N&P see Abbey National				
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	152.60	160.60†	+ 1.20	
European Dist	182.30	191.90	+ 0.50	0.13
Far East Dist	186.90	196.70	+ 1.40	
Global Care Dist	84.23	89.19†	- 1.02	0.53
Oseas Dist	1254.40	1320.40	+ 8.60	
-do- Accum	1630.40	1716.20	+ 11.20	
UK Dist	498.90	525.20	- 10.10	1.84
-do- Accum	1032.30	1086.60	- 21.10	1.84
UK Extra Inc Dist	103.60	109.00	- 0.60	3.58
W'wide Dist	131.90	138.80	+ 0.30	
W'wide Inc Dist	96.65	101.74	- 0.80	1.62
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 260 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	95.37	100.70	- 1.90	0.31
Fund of Funds Inc	77.92	82.24†	- 0.70	1.22
North America Inc	80.71	85.18	+ 0.10	0.11
UK Equity Gth Inc	76.75	81.00	- 1.54	1.98
-do- Accum	84.20	88.87	- 1.79	1.98
UK General Inc	75.95	80.18	- 1.24	2.01
-do- Accum	85.11	89.83	- 1.39	2.01
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.32	50.89†	+ 0.03	6.17
UK Income Inc	75.46	79.64	- 1.04	3.01
UK Smlr Cos Inc	118.80	125.40	- 9.80	1.17
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	61.86	65.80	+ 1.04	
-do- Accum	62.34	66.31	+ 1.04	. .
Bond	130.28	138.28†	+ 1.09	5.48
Cash Income	50.55	50.66	+ 0.15	5.70
-do- Accum	71.56	71.58	+ 0.05	5.70
Challenger	92.87	95.84	+ 0.09	1.77
Distributor	117.17	124.64†	- 2.09	2.74
European	70.85	75.37†	- 1.08	. . .
Foundation	121.60	129.36	- 1.78	1.84
General Inc	266.24	283.23†	- 2.51	1.08
General Acc	271.98	289.33†	- 2.57	1.80
Growth Inc	157.46	167.51	- 4.73	1.67
Growth Acc	163.32	173.74	- 4.90	1.67
Higher Income Inc	37.03	39.39	- 1.17	4.78
-do- Accum	45.92	48.85	- 1.44	4.78
Income	306.98	326.57†	- 3.88	2.93
Intrepid	168.05	175.05		1.49
Intl Gwth	46.14	49.08	+ 0.25	.
Japan	30.29	32.22	+ 0.14	. . .
Oriental Inc	158.13	168.22	- 0.58	0.33
-do- Accum	163.79	174.24	- 0.59	0.33
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	53.52	56.63†	- 0.24	5.76
UK Growth	130.50	138.10	. .	2.59
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 294				
Master Trust	159.26	167.64	- 1.20	1.29
UK Equity	196.11	206.43	- 4.20	2.65
UK Equity Income	173.19	182.31	- 2.87	3.25
UK Smaller Cos	146.27	153.97†	- 0.18	1.43
UK Equity Growth	167.99	176.83	- 2.39	1.31
UK Index Trckg	199.60	210.87	- 0.93	2.44
Intl Index Trckg	201.45	212.61	+ 1.61	0.56
International	313.16	329.64	- 0.31	0.45
European	305.00	321.05	- 1.64	0.02
Pan European	204.31	215.06	- 2.91	0.79
Nth American	287.78	302.93	+ 4.67	0.28
N.Amer Smlr Cos	296.84	312.46†	+ 1.34	. .
Japanese	92.18	97.03†	- 0.27	. .
Pacific	239.42	252.02†	+ 0.43	0.37
South East Asian	277.76	292.38	+ 1.05	0.39
Sterling Bond	104.95	110.47†	+ 0.49	6.53
Intl Bond	121.38	127.77†	- 0.14	4.72
Gilt & Convertible	113.64	119.62†	+ 0.48	6.12
Property	87.88	92.50†	+ 0.04	5.75
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	411.80	441.50	- 4.50	0.04
-do- Accum	437.60	469.20	- 4.80	0.04
Japan Inc	99.17	105.00	+ 0.40	. .
Nth American Inc	198.80	210.50	+ 2.70	0.58
Worldwide Inc	212.80	226.20	+ 0.70	0.27
Hong Kong Inc	238.30	254.10	+ 2.40	0.62
Swiss Equities Inc	109.30	116.70	- 1.20	.
W'wide Bond Inc	66.49	70.27	- 0.03	5.01
Emgng Asia Inc	196.20	211.10	- 0.30	0.17
-do- Accum	196.90	211.80	- 0.40	0.17
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.53	50.53	+ 0.05	5.28
Thailand Inc	71.16	77.36	- 4.05	3.08
New Zealand Inc	103.10	110.60	+ 2.10	2.30
Int Mngd PEP Inc	83.26	89.09	- 0.61	0.61
Latin Am Corp Inc	90.22	98.59	+ 1.91	0.51
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	82.42	83.76	- 1.56	2.18
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	91.53	97.37	- 1.21	. .
Global Portfolio	79.18	85.43†	- 0.87	. .
Way Global Red	72.08	78.68	- 0.84	. .
Marsh Global Gth	69.44	73.64	- 0.34	. .
AMR Brit Gwth Inc	122.70	131.20	- 2.10	0.82
Temple Equity Inc	52.25	58.81†	- 0.22	2.02
Hartley Growth	130.60	138.90†	- 0.50	0.31
Intl Growth Inc	88.04	94.16	- 1.18	.
IPS Portfolio Inc	105.00	111.10	- 1.30	. .
Rasborgh Stral Gth	80.58	86.18	+ 0.01	0.18
UFC Growth	71.69	76.67	- 0.59	. .
Chestfield Port of Fds	59.92	63.58†	+ 0.31	. .
PM UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	256.00	271.30	- 5.20	0.82
European Gth	163.40	173.40	+ 0.40	0.24
Income & Gth #	177.30	188.69	- 2.80	2.81
Japan Gth	102.70	109.30	+ 1.00	
Nth Amer Gth	284.90	302.00	+ 6.70	0.08
Overseas Gth	145.40	154.50	+ 1.00	.
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	327.80	348.70†	- 9.20	1.76
-do- Accum	732.30	779.00	- 20.50	1.76
Growth	209.90	220.90	- 5.90	2.17
Income	311.70	331.60	- 6.50	3.32
Intl Equity	324.40	345.60	- 0.90	0.06
-do- Accum	363.20	386.40	- 1.00	0.06
Equity Income #	83.93	89.28†	- 1.93	4.75
Equity Growth	111.38	118.49	- 2.80	1.32
New Europe	125.90	133.80	- 0.90	. . .
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	825.34	881.73	+ 6.22	0.29
-do- Accum	830.47	887.20	+ 6.25	0.29
Income	527.49	564.16	+ 1.14	2.69
W'wide Recovery	538.75	574.07	+ 2.90	0.23
Amer Growth Inc	355.24	377.44	+ 4.67	0.01
-do- Accum	355.24	377.44	+ 4.67	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	313.63	334.80	+ 1.83	0.09
Far Estn Gwth Inc	314.87	336.76	+ 0.95	0.61
-do- Accum	318.89	340.97	+ 0.97	0.61
Euro Gwth Inc	231.82	247.49	+ 1.61	0.01
-do- Accum	232.63	249.26	+ 1.62	0.01
UK Growth Inc	133.67	142.97	- 0.38	2.36
-do- Accum	146.92	157.14	- 0.42	2.36
High Income	135.79	145.23†	+ 0.31	3.84
Jap Gwth Inc	179.28	191.75	- 1.93	0.01
-do- Accum	179.28	191.75	- 1.93	0.01
PEP Bond	81.69	84.37	+ 0.43	7.08
PEP Growth	174.46	186.57	+ 1.28	0.49
Asian Gr Mkts Inc	144.02	154.04	+ 1.91	0.05
-do- Accum	144.49	154.54	+ 1.92	0.05
Amer Smlr Co Inc	222.60	237.87	+ 0.51	0.01
-do- Accum	222.60	237.87	+ 0.51	0.01
Global Bond	54.36	57.30	+ 0.17	4.85
UK Smaller Cos Inc	108.29	115.82†	- 1.05	1.98
-do- Accum	117.29	125.44	- 1.15	1.98
Lat Am Gwth Inc	46.90	50.17	+ 1.20	0.01
-do- Accum	47.66	50.98	+ 1.23	0.01
World Inc PEP #	49.93	52.84	+ 0.26	4.00
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0181 201 3927				
American	159.72	169.91	- 0.44	.
European	115.99	123.39	- 1.42	. .
Global	77.27	82.20†	- 0.23	
Pacific	61.56	65.25	- 0.54	. .
UK Inc & Gth	89.85	95.59	- 0.63	1.42
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Asia Acc	56.71	60.54	+ 0.18	.
Emerg Mkts	52.48	55.68	- 0.74	0.29
Euro Fund Acc	50.18	53.24	- 0.76	
Fund of Funds Inc	218.62	230.13†	- 1.84	0.03
Fund of Funds Acc	220.79	232.41	- 1.85	0.03
High Income #	58.70	61.26†	+ 0.16	5.71
Performance	54.41	57.73	- 0.40	. . .
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	199.06	198.53	- 1.94	2.29
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	144.70	153.60†	+ 0.60	2.13
Conv & Gilt	125.50	133.50	+ 0.30	4.76
Euro Spc Sit Acc	117.40	124.90	- 3.90	. .
Extra Income	202.70	215.60†	- 4.60	4.23
-do- Accum	271.90	289.20	- 6.30	4.23
Far East	414.50	441.00	- 6.60	0.14
-do- Accum	423.29	450.30	- 6.70	0.14
Global Income	29.82	31.64†	- 0.19	4.33
High Income	154.30	164.10	- 2.90	4.10
-do- Accum	201.80	214.70	- 3.90	4.10
International	247.70	263.50	- 0.70	0.26
-do- Accum	258.00	274.50	- 0.70	0.26
Pref & Fxd Int	48.32	51.43†	+ 0.24	8.51
Recovery	94.92	101.09	- 3.18	2.57

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	151.00	160.70	- 5.40	1.72
-do- Accum	169.60	180.40	- 6.10	1.72
Technology	812.60	864.50	- 4.70	
UK Blue Chip	104.90	111.60	- 2.70	2.78
-do- Accum	123.50	131.40	- 2.70	2.78
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406000 Client Enq: 0345 835500				
Managed Tst	49.90	51.71	- 0.34	1.74
Cash Haven Inc	101.74	102.24	+ 0.09	5.72
Cash Haven Acc	122.77	123.38	+ 0.11	5.72
Dist Trust Inc	113.42	117.53†	- 1.27	5.16
Dist Trust Acc	132.09	136.88	- 2.43	5.16
Global Growth	118.45	126.01†	- 2.12	1.05
Equity Inc	95.90	102.02	- 1.58	4.50
Equity	1018.04	1083.02	- 23.77	2.13
European	330.48	342.47	+ 0.66	0.45
High Income	100.71	107.14†	- 1.14	4.87
Intl Gth	247.06	262.83†	+ 0.03	0.79
Intl Sm Co	102.49	109.03	- 1.50	0.50
Japanese	183.54	190.20	+ 0.90	.
Mgd Income Tst #	50.01	51.68†	+ 0.08	7.51
Nth Amer	297.29	307.60	+ 5.04	0.89
Pacific Mkts	118.13	122.41†	+ 2.10	1.11
Premier Inc	49.08	51.08†	+ 0.17	6.11
Sm Cos	108.42	115.34	- 0.86	1.59
Spec Sits	141.08	150.09†	- 2.89	2.22
UK Growth	173.17	184.22	- 4.12	2.10
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	95.33	100.24	+ 0.03	3.28
Investment Trust	130.60	137.33	+ 2.10	0.55
UK Smaller Cos	108.87	114.48†	- 1.31	1.85
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	400.70	425.00	- 10.50	2.39
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0800 124 314				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	894.65	946.84	+ 10.64	. .
America (Acc)	1048.27	1109.41	+ 12.46	. .
Amer Smllr Cos	75.37	80.11	+ 0.05	
Asia	54.97	58.77	- 0.49	. .
European	499.72	530.40	- 0.95	. .
Japan	217.76	231.95	+ 1.08	. .
Jap Smllr Cos	31.65	33.74	- 0.51	. .
Major UK Cos	136.55	145.50	- 4.23	1.43
Smllr UK Cos	431.35	459.91	- 6.73	1.27
UK Equity Inc #	205.97	219.93	- 3.20	3.85
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	54.14	56.54†	- 0.05	.
Cash	48.18	50.18†	+ 0.02	3.61
Emerging Mkts	57.52	60.07†	- 0.38	. .
Europe	74.57	77.87†	- 1.10	.
Global Fixed Int #	48.60	50.75†	- 0.06	4.67
Japan	38.51	41.26†	- 0.13	. .
North America	81.98	85.56†	+ 0.05	.
UK	73.26	77.98†	- 0.84	0.48
UK Equity Inc #	69.34	72.41†	- 0.75	3.25
UK Fixed Int #	52.21	54.52†	+ 0.26	6.90
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Cptl Port	57.48	59.56	- 0.65	. .
Pep Inc Port #	57.11	59.18	- 0.47	2.83
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	160.40	170.00	+ 1.20	0.25
Pacific Basin	80.78	86.43	+ 1.32	0.90
High Inc Dist	190.80	203.40	- 3.60	3.48
Ryl Life Int Cnry	68.44	72.30	+ 0.32	3.92
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	92.01	97.89†	+ 0.08	0.06
Ryl Life Intl Spec	81.13	86.30	- 0.50	. . .
UK Emerging Cos	131.20	141.80	- 4.30	1.23
UK Index Trckg	234.40	249.00	- 3.50	3.22
European	213.90	229.20	- 3.40	0.15
Managed	208.40	224.70†	- 2.10	0.67
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	241.20	255.90†	+ 0.40	1.08
European Growth	179.60	191.00	- 1.20	1.23
Far East Growth	161.40	171.80†	- 0.70	0.89
Japan Growth	115.60	122.80	- 1.50	0.25
Special Sits	256.50	272.80	- 1.70	1.46
UK Growth	120.20	127.80†	- 2.30	2.31
Intl Growth	329.80	350.90	- 2.10	1.51
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	174.40	184.58	+ 0.40	0.29
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	506.40	535.90	- 0.50	0.01
-do- Accum	794.70	840.90	- 0.80	0.01
Growth Inc	173.00	183.10	- 1.20	0.07
-do- Accum	177.98	188.30	- 1.20	0.07
International Inc	464.80	491.90	- 2.50	0.17
-do- Accum	643.30	680.70	- 3.50	0.17
Nth Am & Intl Inc	460.80	487.70	+ 3.00	. . .
UK Gen Prog Inc	285.50	302.10	- 5.60	1.88
-do- Accum	330.80	350.10	- 6.40	1.88
UK High Inc Inc	168.70	178.50	- 3.90	4.45
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	132.38	140.82	+ 2.56	0.75
European Gwth	115.63	123.01	- 0.61	1.00
Global Bd	60.08	63.48	+ 0.10	5.08
Japan	51.94	55.25	+ 0.20	. .
UK Gwth	97.22	103.42	- 1.42	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smllr Cos	172.20	183.20	+ 2.30	
Cash	140.20	140.20†	+ 0.10	6.17
China Dragon	90.09	95.84	+ 1.69	0.32
Commodity	133.40	141.90	- 1.10	. . .
Emerging Mkts	46.67	49.65†	+ 0.37	0.34
European Gwth	297.78	316.70	+ 0.10	. .
Euro Smllr Cos	78.84	83.87	- 0.49	0.04
Extra Income #	64.82	66.95	- 0.44	5.23
Far Eastern	102.80	109.40	+ 1.30	. .
FE Sm Cos	46.53	49.50†	+ 0.57	0.50
Financial Secs	381.20	405.20	- 3.90	1.31
Gold & Exploration	57.04	60.68	- 0.11	. .
Growth	528.20	590.90	- 6.80	1.89
High Income	51.82	51.87	+ 0.25	6.72
Intl Bond	156.50	165.30		4.84
ITU	265.10	282.00	- 2.80	0.80
Japan Growth	155.30	164.60	+ 1.30	. . .
Japan Smaller	142.60	151.30	- 3.69	.
Korea	39.67	42.20	- 0.13	. .
Latin America	55.68	59.45†	+ 1.94	0.54
Masterfund	71.95	72.31†	- 0.36	0.76
Premier Eq Gwth	193.50	205.90†	- 3.70	1.26
Premier Eq Inc #	422.99	449.80	- 5.20	4.27
SE Asia	49.79	52.97	+ 0.66	
Southern Africa	59.33	63.12	+ 0.84	1.14
UK & O'seas	235.30	250.30†	- 0.80	0.82
UK Eqty Gth	96.35	102.50	- 1.90	0.91
UK Eqty Inc #	301.80	321.10†	- 4.40	4.05
UK Gth & Inc #	353.10	375.60†	- 7.70	2.87
UK Sm Cos	59.53	63.33	- 0.60	1.11
US Growth	272.90	290.20	+ 4.80	. .
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	428.65	452.54	+ 17.69	0.62
-do- Accum	475.77	502.29	+ 19.52	0.62
European Gwth	111.76	118.52	+ 0.26	0.39
Euro Smllr Cos	125.89	133.73†	- 1.18	0.03
Far Eastern Gth	114.75	122.40†	+ 0.40	.
-do- Accum	116.87	124.76†	+ 0.40	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	55.35	58.31	+ 0.27	7.29
Global Bond #	45.31	46.81†	- 0.04	6.08
-do- Accum #	56.73	58.61†	- 0.04	6.08
Global Emer Mkts	62.97	67.16	+ 0.82	. .
-do- Accum	63.03	67.22	+ 0.82	. .
Income #	494.12	516.39	- 8.71	4.82
-do- Accum #	1670.91	1782.32	- 23.17	4.82
Japan Smllr Cos	322.20	343.67†	- 6.82	. .
-do- Accum	322.84	344.36†	- 6.83	. .
Japan Enterprise	65.19	69.53	- 0.51	
Pacific Gwth	170.43	181.79	+ 2.77	0.44
-do- Accum	177.17	188.98	+ 2.88	0.44
Portfolio	108.58	115.76	- 0.86	1.70
-do- Accum	121.74	129.78	- 0.96	1.70
Seoul	33.82	36.07	- 0.02	. .
-do- Accum	33.82	36.07	- 0.02	
Smaller Cos	342.32	365.14†	- 3.20	1.17
-do- Accum	410.08	437.39†	- 4.45	1.17
Strategic Inc	112.91	120.49	- 0.99	2.40
Strategic Acc	114.81	122.42	- 1.01	2.40
Tokyo	130.57	139.27	+ 0.04	.
-do- Accum	131.89	140.68	+ 0.04	. . .
UK Enterprise	371.80	396.58†	- 6.47	2.12
-do- Accum	470.78	502.14†	- 8.22	2.12
UK Equity	360.18	373.52†	- 6.61	2.40
-do- Accum	723.61	771.84†	- 13.45	2.40
US Smllr Cos	291.66	311.01	+ 5.06	. .
-do- Accum	291.66	311.01	+ 5.06	. . .
Institutional Funds				
European	364.15	377.57†	+ 0.11	0.96
-do- Accum	415.00	430.29†	+ 0.12	0.96
Euro Smlr Cos	40.87	42.51	- 0.53	0.82
-do- Accum	44.39	46.14	- 0.58	0.82
Global Equity Inc	108.04	112.42	+ 0.52	0.88
Japan Smllr Cos	30.38	31.64†	- 0.37	0.12
-do- Accum	30.72	32.00†	- 0.37	0.12
Mngd Balanced	249.01	258.36	- 2.19	3.47
-do- Accum	297.74	310.14	- 2.62	3.47
Overseas Equity	252.61	263.34†	+ 0.70	0.82
-do- Accum	267.39	278.52†	+ 0.74	0.82
Oseas Smllr Cos	144.45	150.48	- 0.82	0.70
-do- Accum	153.39	159.78	- 0.87	0.70
Pacific	295.01	307.30	+ 4.71	1.37
-do- Accum	330.49	344.25	+ 5.27	1.37
Recovery	2523.84	2628.79†	- 27.86	3.17
-do- Accum	2849.76	2968.52†	- 31.47	3.17
UK Index	218.03	227.11	- 0.53	3.09
-do- Accum	288.92	288.87	- 0.70	3.09
UK Small Cos	146.61	152.71	- 0.94	2.60
-do- Accum	164.16	171.00	- 1.04	2.60
US Smllr Cos	77.34	80.49	+ 0.82	0.42
-do- Accum	79.58	82.81	+ 0.85	0.42
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	71.55	75.66	- 1.54	2.17
Equity Trust	91.51	96.77	- 1.54	2.35
Equity Strategy	98.98	104.67	- 1.81	0.98
European Opps	127.50	134.83	- 3.36	. . .
UK Smaller Cos	79.16	83.71	- 1.61	1.23
Maximum Inc	100.41	103.01	+ 0.09	7.49
Japanese	71.88	76.01	+ 0.17	. . .
Asia Pacific	123.91	131.04	+ 2.22	0.38
American	173.28	183.24	+ 0.63	
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	34.53	34.53	+ 0.04	6.23
UK Eq Gwth Inc	71.92	76.07	- 1.43	3.00
-do- Accum	97.69	104.05	- 1.94	3.00
Intl Income	348.85	369.28	+ 0.75	1.42
-do- Accum	616.31	656.14	+ 1.34	1.42
European	127.28	135.24	+ 0.14	1.35
Japan	50.81	63.37	+ 0.58	0.19
American	128.22	135.41	+ 1.07	1.17
Far East Tact	91.35	97.55†	+ 0.52	1.38
Ethical Inc	42.19	45.13†	- 0.56	1.56
UK Blue Chip Inc	47.71	50.90	- 0.81	3.38
UK Equity Inc	48.33	51.55	- 0.72	4.17
UK Global Inc	58.74	60.00	- 0.05	1.86
W'wide Tact	98.75	105.19	+ 0.23	1.01
Europe Tactical	89.88	95.81†	- 0.30	0.98
Technology	187.26	199.65	- 0.45	0.71
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	582.50	620.90	- 10.80	2.54
American	427.30	452.50	+ 5.60	0.16
Pacific	419.50	446.70	+ 4.70	0.10
European	774.40	828.20	- 10.80	0.55
Worldwide	112.80	120.60	+ 0.20	0.10
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	385.10	410.80	- 4.70	1.91
-do- Accum	517.30	550.40	- 6.40	1.91
UK Sh Co Eq Inc	287.70	306.10	- 3.00	1.45
-do- Accum	357.90	380.80	- 3.80	1.45
Select Oppty Inc	95.40	102.10	- 2.30	1.57
Income Plus Inc	98.12	104.40	- 1.20	2.76
European Inc	544.00	578.80	+ 1.40	0.54
-do- Accum	627.00	666.80	+ 1.50	0.54
Far Eastern Inc	185.90	197.80	+ 0.60	0.67
-do- Accum	216.20	230.00	+ 0.60	0.67
Japanese Inc	57.42	61.09	+ 0.07	. . .
Nth American Inc	425.50	451.70	- 0.70	0.21
-do- Accum	471.30	500.50	- 0.80	0.21
Intl Growth Inc	263.20	280.06	+ 0.50	0.37
W'wide Venture Inc #	112.70	119.90	+ 1.00	0.31
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 655 6724				
Equity Inc	512.40	541.40	- 6.50	2.30
-do- Accum	793.20	836.80	- 10.10	2.30
UK High Inc	248.00	263.30	- 4.50	2.29

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	391.10	413.30	- 7.10	2.29
Europe Inc	585.30	619.00	- 9.20	0.36
Nth Amer Inc	391.50	413.50	+ 3.60	
Global Inc	296.40	313.10	- 3.30	0.12
Global Acc	320.70	338.80	- 2.50	0.12
UK Spec Sits Inc	142.20	156.50	- 1.60	1.96
South East Asia	272.50	292.90	+ 1.00	0.34
Cash Trust Inc	100.70	100.70	+ 0.10	6.05
UK Smllr Cos Inc	122.70	129.70	- 0.50	2.10
-do- Accum	129.95	137.20	- 0.60	2.10
Intl Bond Inc	85.99	90.34	- 0.50	4.62
International Strat	89.67	94.06	- 0.33	. .
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	194.50	204.70†	+ 0.40	0.36
Nth American	172.56	179.50†	+ 2.50	. .
Intl Bond & Conv	130.60	137.50	+ 0.20	6.23
Pooled Pension	262.10	278.30	- 4.20	1.58
Smaller Cos	117.50	123.70	- 1.10	0.92
UK General #	190.10	200.10	- 4.50	2.27
Far Eastern	91.99	96.85	+ 0.79	0.12
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
Continental	106.40	112.50	- 0.80	0.83
Global Gwth	91.14	96.38	- 0.21	1.05
Inv Tst Port	62.24	66.70	- 0.26	2.28
Managed	1475.93	1545.84		1.50
Pref Inc #	106.30	113.09†	- 1.30	5.97
Smaller Cos	272.40	297.00†	- 0.10	0.81
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	103.72		- 1.24	4.62
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.47		+ 0.11	5.08
Corporate Inc ‡	99.13		- 0.47	5.85
Tai Pan ‡	122.25		+ 1.18	
Aztec ‡	90.40		+ 1.65	
Amer Eth Fund ‡	164.06		- 0.16	
European ‡	197.17		- 0.72	.
Global Bond ‡	89.81		+ 0.46	6.90
Samurai ‡	56.01		+ 0.60	. . .
UK Growth ‡	112.49		- 1.97	2.59
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	97.15		- 1.34	3.28
Investment Trust ‡	122.83		- 0.55	2.20
The Football Fd ‡	87.67		- 1.53	
Reserve Roll Up ‡	98.93		+ 0.26	
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	508.40	538.00	- 13.60	
Capital	164.30	173.30	- 2.18	4.22
Cash	101.84	101.64	+ 0.00	6.14
European	192.70	203.70	- 3.40	0.20
Far Eastern	177.90	188.30	+ 1.50	
Growth	186.70	197.60†	- 2.10	1.49
Income #	154.20	163.20	- 1.50	4.88
Magnum	169.60	179.70†	- 1.70	1.36
Smllr Secs	599.20	634.10	- 5.40	0.30
Thoroughbred	200.60	212.30†	- 2.00	1.33
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0800 73 11 083				
Capital Prtcnce	58.83	62.88	- 0.02	7.80
Ethical	84.90	90.60	- 0.79	1.10
European Growth	98.36	104.38†	+ 0.10	0.02
Income	66.78	71.42	- 1.16	3.75
Intl Growth	128.10	135.70	+ 1.30	0.07
Managed	108.30	114.70†		0.40
UK Growth	85.00	90.90	- 1.73	1.31
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	52.92	53.19	- 0.54	1.14
Global Advtg Acc	57.85	59.14	- 0.60	1.14
Income Advtg Inc	41.00	41.21†	- 0.80	3.70
Income Advtg Acc	49.28	49.46	- 0.95	3.70
UK Equity Gth Acc	116.30	123.30	- 2.70	1.59
Premier Inc Inc	52.65	53.10†	+ 0.37	6.97
Premier Inc Acc	58.21	59.38	+ 0.41	6.97
Managed Acc	72.36	76.73	- 0.70	1.83
UK Eq HI Inc Inc	47.85	50.73	- 0.68	3.97
UK Eq HI Inc Acc	64.85	68.75	- 0.93	3.97
UK Smlr Cos Acc	48.01	50.90	- 0.06	0.48
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	93.82	99.69	- 1.81	1.56
UK Equity Gen Inc	66.67	70.84	- 1.26	1.56
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	33.40	35.33	+ 0.21	6.20
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	410.90	445.90	- 2.70	1.53
Nth American Acc	71.90	76.40	+ 0.19	0.01
Pacific Basin	46.08	48.97	- 0.06	0.43
European Acc	70.01	74.39	- 1.97	0.89
Japan Acc	25.60	27.21	- 0.43	0.56
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZS)	5.470	5.796	+ 0.07	1.60
US Eqts (USS)	4.411	4.669	+ 0.05	0.62
Far East Eqts (yen)	283.80	301.50	- 2.60	. .
FT Europe	187.60	199.30	+ 2.00	0.99
FT N Amer (USS)	3.564	3.770	+ 0.03	.
FT Japan (yen)	190.90	201.70	- 3.40	
FT Asia Ex.Jap (USS)	3.101	3.294	+ 0.02	0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	600.40	634.70	+ 9.10	
British #	1426.50	1509.20	- 22.40	2.96
Emging Mkts	201.10	213.90	- 0.20	0.42
Euro Gwth Inc	113.10	120.10	- 1.50	
Euro Small Co	63.57	67.70	- 1.53	0.18
Japan	120.00	127.30	- 0.20	.
New Pacific	459.80	488.70	+ 6.10	1.12
-do- Accum	500.30	532.80	+ 6.60	1.12
Inv Trust Acc	327.58	347.20	- 3.00	1.12
Mngd Equity	223.40	236.40	- 1.90	1.88
Mngd Cash	95.65	95.65†	+ 0.08	5.95
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	1285.00	1382.00	- 29.00	1.62
North America	235.99	252.20	+ 2.80	.
Far East	164.70	176.10	+ 0.70	
W'wide Bond	54.92	58.35	- 0.11	4.33
European	176.00	188.20	- 1.50	0.17
Equity Income #	128.60	137.50†	- 2.60	4.30
Portfolio	130.50	139.59	- 0.90	1.67
UK Leading Cos	97.80	104.20†	- 2.30	1.97
High Inc Bond	51.28	51.36	+ 0.14	6.33
Broker Trusts				
Total Equity	83.61	89.42†	- 0.72	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Actuary UT	34.91	36.51	+ 0.24	0.58
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	102.64	109.20	+ 0.46	6.62
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	110.39	117.44	+ 0.50	6.62
European	62.76	66.77	- 0.69	0.42
High Income	40.15	42.72	- 0.49	3.39
Japan	35.33	37.59	+ 0.18	0.01
Managed Assets	163.02	174.26†	- 1.84	2.29
North American	57.97	61.68	+ 0.90	0.01
Smlr Co's Inc	36.77	39.12	- 0.09	2.17
Smlr Co's Acc	40.74	43.35	- 0.10	2.17
UK Growth Inc	75.25	80.06†	- 1.56	1.99
UK Growth Acc	86.98	92.54	- 1.80	1.99
UK Income	52.15	55.78†	- 0.89	2.84
Worldwide Gth	48.43	51.80	- 0.28	0.02
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	62.20	66.17	- 0.53	
Cap Protector Inc	57.63	61.31	- 0.55	2.47
UK Income Inc	71.34	75.89	- 1.21	2.84
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	37.37	39.53†	- 0.17	6.68
Mngd High Yld Inc	102.81	109.37	- 1.22	3.95
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	101.25	107.66	- 1.61	3.05
UK Smaller Cos	41.10	43.72	- 0.41	2.10
Pacific Gth Port	54.65	58.14	+ 0.82	0.59
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 784				
American	378.38	408.40	+ 7.72	. .
-do- Accum	418.77	441.02	+ 8.50	.
Brit Growth	143.09	151.42	- 3.64	1.36
-do- Accum	180.26	190.78	- 4.58	1.36
European	155.05	164.07	+ 0.01	
-do- Accum	165.61	175.25	+ 0.02	.
Extra Income #	243.79	257.98	- 5.72	4.22
-do- Accum #	455.52	482.03	- 10.69	4.22
Smaller Cos	89.46	94.67	- 0.61	1.17
-do- Accum	102.82	108.80	- 0.70	1.17
General	411.84	435.81†	- 9.26	1.78
-do- Accum	895.68	947.81†	- 20.14	1.78
Premier Income	53.29	55.51†	- 0.46	6.23
-do- Accum	140.16	146.00†	+ 0.80	6.23
Income #	442.67	468.43†	- 9.73	3.23
-do- Accum #	1057.78	1119.34†	- 23.26	3.23
Pacific	394.50	417.47†	+ 3.44	0.13
-do- Accum	414.53	438.65†	+ 3.60	0.13
International	732.81	775.46	+ 4.42	0.07
-do- Accum	968.36	1024.72	+ 5.05	0.07
Nat Resources	160.26	169.59	+ 0.41	0.32
Sletd Opps	148.88	157.55	- 2.68	0.91
-do- Accum	197.01	208.48	- 3.54	0.91
Environmental Inv	95.72	101.29	- 1.43	0.66
Selector	84.42	89.33	- 1.44	1.33
-do- Accum	99.16	104.93	- 1.70	1.33
High Income #	78.80	83.18†	- 1.53	4.17
-do- Accum #	111.44	117.93†	- 2.17	4.17
Intl Income	62.14	65.75	- 0.74	4.39
-do- Accum	84.43	89.35	- 0.99	4.39
Selector Income	73.83	78.13	- 1.13	4.00
-do- Accum	95.50	101.06	- 1.47	4.00
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 687 1018				
British	480.49	505.78	- 10.02	2.14
European	94.62	99.08	+ 0.22	1.08
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	266.54	282.05†	+ 0.35	2.84
Glob Balncd Inc	220.92	233.78	+ 0.53	3.43
Value Tst Inc	167.58	177.33†	+ 1.58	2.31
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0093				
Capital	103.50	110.10†	- 2.00	0.48
International	82.14	87.36†	- 0.31	. .
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0171 246 3800 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	37.90	39.40	- 0.61	6.70
European Growth	415.67	435.25	- 3.67	0.80
Exempt	770.68	804.80†	- 15.16	2.90
Global Em Mkts	98.15	102.77	+ 0.14	0.50
Japan Tst	82.10	85.96	+ 0.58	. .
Little Dragons	125.47	131.39	+ 2.21	
Nth Amer Gwth	379.28	397.88	+ 1.88	0.40
Oriental Income #	52.39	54.84	+ 1.21	3.40
Preference	138.98	145.52	+ 0.75	8.20
Tiger	316.61	331.52	- 0.91	.
UK Blue Chip	96.45	101.00	- 2.32	1.50
UK Growth	778.44	815.11	- 10.42	0.80
UK High Yield #	133.11	139.38†	- 2.74	4.90
UK Mid-Cap	345.82	362.11	- 4.18	1.70
UK Smllr Cos	137.64	144.12	- 1.58	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Div #	89.19	93.39†	- 0.64	5.90
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 398				
UK Equity Income #	133.81	142.46	- 2.38	4.39
UK Equity Growth	120.87	128.59	- 2.56	2.48
European	91.17	96.99	- 0.61	1.13
Nth American	108.36	115.28	+ 1.58	0.10
Far Eastern	83.99	89.35†	+ 1.28	0.84
Money	74.04	74.04	+ 0.07	4.68
Fixed Interest #	85.79	91.27	+ 0.40	7.51
Index Linked Gilt	78.07	80.03	- 0.22	1.78
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 959505				
Income Trust	108.78	108.75	+ 0.20	6.50
Pens Growth	118.44	118.44†	- 0.52	. . .
Pens Inc Protct	107.47	107.47†	+ 0.68	.
UK Index Tracking @	153.75	153.75	- 0.67	2.52
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7455				
Australasian Gold	19.81	20.85	+ 1.08	. .
Pacific Basin	42.17	44.39	+ 0.23	.
Global Bond (USS)	0.9403	0.9836	+ 0.08	.
Penny Shares	44.05	46.37†	- 0.61	.
Japan Smlr Cos	37.52	39.49	- 0.86	. .
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	128.20	129.60	+ 0.28	.
US Govt Bd (USS)	0.8040	0.8125	+ 0.01	
Gilt Income	51.92	52.75†	+ 0.12	6.20
Gilt Growth	82.52	83.83	+ 0.39	. .
Sterling Bond	50.49	51.34	+ 0.24	6.70
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	63.70	67.74	+ 0.16	1.75
UK Stockmarket	119.10	126.70	- 0.20	2.22
Corporate Bd Inc	50.48	50.58	+ 0.28	6.23
Do Accum	53.43	53.55	+ 0.22	6.23

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

Equities end week on a flat note

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
499	407½	Allied Domecq†	440½	- 6	6.0	13.5
426	430	Bulmer (HP)	440½		4.2	
79½	42½	Burn Stewart	43½	- ½	9.8	10.8
1040	885	Glenmorangie At	950		1.7	23.5
631	425½	Grand Metr	509	- 10	3.1	19.6
627	424	Guinness	597	- 1½	3.4	17.0
380	321½	Highland Dist	376½	- 1	3.2	15.3
338	225	Matthew Clark	247½		12.9	7.4
109½	57½	Morrison WI	59½	- 3	6.5	...
1978½	1482½	SA Breweries	1868½	+ 18½	2.0	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1178½	918½	ABN-AMRO	1071½	+ 3½	2.8	
971	710	Abbey Ntl	819	- ½	4.0	14.5
656	532½	Alliance & Leic	594	- ½	3.4	14.6
527	380½	Allied Irish	519½	- 7½	3.5	14.7
484½	383½	Aus New Z	464½	+ 5	4.1	
4329½	2875	Bank America	4329½	+ 137½		
445	291½	Bank Scotland	423½	- 6	2.4	12.9
1327	978½	Barclays	1249	+ 8½	3.2	12.6
744	517½	Bk of Ireland	737½	- 6½	2.8	
7890½	6088½	Citicorp	7703½	+ 112½		
1758½	1289½	Commerzbk	1584½		2.8	
862½	599½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	753½	- 6½	0.6	
4321½	2789½	Deutsche Bk	3907½	- 40½	1.5	
1231½	759½	Espirito Santo	1231½	+ 6½	2.0	
947½	584½	Fuji Bank Y	850	+ 1	0.5	
2215	1272½	HSBC	2087½	- 9½	2.5	18.1
2197	1241	HSBC HK	2010	- 6	2.5	17.4
783	714	Halifax	720½	- 2½	2.6	21.5
610	402½	Irish Perm	585		2.8	
730½	424	Lloyds TSB	659½	+ 1	2.5	21.4
888½	688½	Nat Aust Bk	854	+ 15½	4.6	12.0
998½	653½	Nat West	845½	- 1½	4.3	12.7
683½	508	Ryl Bk Scot	631	- 10½	3.8	13.6
1053½	681	Stand Chart	971½	- 33½	1.9	17.4
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
374½	315½	Westpac	364½	+ 6½	4.0	
373½	285½	Woolwich	286		3.5	17.1

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
465½	387½	Electrocomponents†	426½	- 8½	2.3	24.0
226½	117½	Eurodis Elec	121½		5.4	
97½	76½	European Mtr	92½		7.8	7.9
383	213	Evans Halshaw	227½		9.1	
53½	39½	Fife Indmar	39½	..	10.4	7.9
397½	318½	Firstbus Gp	319		2.6	16.2
34½	25½	Gardiner	26½		4.8	9.6
79½	57½	Glenchewton	63		2.7	12.3
110	82½	Gowrings	104½	+ 1	3.6	23.8
15½	11	HR Owen	13½		6.0	12.4
103	20½	Hamlet	22½	+ 1	...	2.1
267½	232½	Hunt (Philip)†	242½		5.2	9.4
320½	284½	Headlam	304½		2.4	20.1
160	145	Holders Tech	160	..	5.1	14.6
240½	170½	ISA Intl	171½		2.1	13.9
308½	240½	Inchcape	283½		4.8	17.6
72	49½	Jacks (Wm)	64½		4.4	10.0
279½	214½	Kwik-Fit	279½	+ ½	2.5	28.1
412½	316½	Lex Service	403	+ 2½	5.2	11.9
122	100	Lookers	107		9.6	7.5
9	5½	Middlesex	7	- ½	7.8	12.1
41½	10½	Midsales	17		3.5	3.5
472	180	Nortonsmt	250	- 1	4.2	
166½	114½	Northumbn	129½	- ½	1.4	7.7
352½	305½	Partco	317½	- 2	3.1	16.7
404½	312½	Pendragon	313½	- 35	4.3	13.3
237½	178½	Perry Gp	178½	- 6½	6.3	8.5
751	448	Premier Farnell	524	+ 10½	2.9	19.4
152½	124½	Quicks Group	132½		8.6	9.0
357	307½	REA†	347½	- 2½	1.4	42.8
2½	1½	Reece	2			23.3
28	12½	Ronson	14½		2.2	
4	1½	Ross Gp	2			
109½	78½	Ryland	86½		5.8	15.5
38	24	SEP Indl	30½		6.4	14.0
92½	30	Saltire	31½		4.8	
415½	284½	Time Products†	290	+ ½	5.2	11.1
337	228	UMECO†	323½	- 1½	2.1	21.0
86½	59	United Ocean Gp	86	+ ½		18.6
352½	280½	Vardy (Reg)	280½		3.4	13.1
685	498½	WF Elect	638		3.0	
41	26½	Wilshaw	35½	- 1	4.1	
172½	113½	Wyko	120½	- 1	2.7	14.1
154½	119½	Young (H)	142		3.8	12.1

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	717½	Bass†	854½	½	3.7	16.0
69½	43½	Bri Inr Inn Bdr	45		5.1	
205	142½	Burtonwood Brwy	156		4.5	14.0
155½	123	City Centre Rest	126		2.5	30.9
744½	598	Compass Gp	613		1.8	22.4
305	250	Eldridge P A†	288½		2.4	15.9
486	436	Fuller Sm 'A'	440		2.8	15.3
586	422½	Greenalls Gp	454	- 1	4.4	11.3
770	642	Greene King†	739		2.8	
237½	184½	Grosvenor Inns	188½		4.5	16.3
285	218½	Groupe Chez Gd	262½	- 1	1.4	25.8
298½	261	Hardy Hansn†	268½	- 3	5.1	11.0
2858	2700	Holt J	2762½		2.7	16.3
78	63½	Inn Business	65½	- 1	3.1	10.4
367	332	Mansfield†	333½		2.6	14.5

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
492½	327½	Antofagasta	435	- 5	1.5	22.9
328	232	Ascot Hldgs	239		2.7	39.9
917	787½	Broken Hill	797½	+ 10	2.8	13.6
399	180½	BTR	193½	- 1	6.2	8.4
601½	462	BAT	537½	- 4	6.2	11.3
69½	52	Brierley Inv	53½	+ ½	8.8	8.8
266	182	Cookson	225	+ 2	5.0	13.9
239½	199½	Cosalt	201½		6.5	8.5
375½	255½	DCC	375	+ 1	2.3	14.0
312½	243½	Gallaher	276	+ 3½	8.7	10.5
141	115½	Crompton Hdgt	128½	+ 1	5.9	17.2
140½	101½	Harrisn Crsfld	111½		10.1	10.6
542½	423½	Hutch Whamp	542½	+ 1	1.8	22.9
438½	362	Imperial Tob	368½	- 2½	6.8	7.4
505½	335	Jardine Math	404	+ 5	3.7	

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
227½	106½	Six Hundred†	107½		5.8	2.6
832½	708½	Smiths Ind	748½	+ 3½	2.8	18.2
737½	595	Spirax-Sarco	609	- 1	3.0	16.0
303½	239½	Sterling Inds†	240½		5.2	11.7
534½	450	TI	513½	+ 5	3.5	17.1
118½	101½	Tinsley (E)	109½		7.2	
120½	92½	TransTec	95½		3.1	13.6
206½	144½	Triplex Lloyd†	162½		5.4	12.3
222½	150½	Unicorn Intl	222½		3.5	
77½	48½	Utd Inds	50		6.0	14.5
273½	160½	Vickers	181	- ½	5.0	10.8
10½	8½	Villiers Grp	9½			
712½	513	Vitec	517½		2.9	9.4

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
32½	24	Edinburgh Inca	31½ +	½	...	...
402	343½	Edinburgh IT	394½	+ 2	3.4	31.4
134	102½	Edin Japan	128			
427½	312	Edin US Trk	426	+ 4	1.6	72.9
482	420½	Electra Invt	458		2.5	42.9
376	86½	English Nat	265		0.2	...
159	144½	Eng & Scot	155½	- ½	2.4	40.4
406½	372	European Asset	393		1.2	
108½	90½	Fidelity Asian Val	103½	+ ½		
275½	216½	Fidelity Euro Val	268½	- 1	0.2	
50	36	Fidelity Jap Val	45½			
136½	121½	Fidelity Spec Val	127½			
236½	205½	Finsbury 'A'	218½	+ 1	2.2	59.5

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3850	3150	Murray S/C Uts	3600		3.9	...
485½	419	Murray Small	465	+ ½	1.6	...
411½	387	Murray Vent	410		4.5	22.9
5½	5½	Newmarket	5½			
447½	363½	O'seas Inv Tst	438	+ 3	1.1	...
250	156½	O'seas Wts	248½	+ 2		
128	87½	Pacific Assets	98½	- ½	0.5	
139½	98	Pep Inv Gth	117½	- ½	3.9	...
58	41	Perpetual Jap	50½			
396½	294½	Perpl Uk Sm Co	295½		4.1	26.4
£152½	£128½	Personal Assets	£152		1.9	50.0
134½	113½	Prolific Inc	122½	- ½	4.8	28.1
266	229	RIT Cap Ptn	264	+ 1	0.9	77.9

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
809½	502½	Flextech	664	- 1		
232½	208½	GGT Group	210	...	3.8	...
232½	167½	GWR Gp†	170½	..	2.0	27.8
387½	300½	Gatehouse Group	345½	- 1	2.2	17.2
34½	24½	Goodhead	33	..	0.9	20.1
319½	243½	Grampian	318½		2.9	21.7
345	254	HIT Entw▲	320	- 7½	0.7	47.5
415	277½	HTV Group	413½	+ 1	1.3	49.7
287½	207½	Haynes Pub	225	.	6.0	10.3
22½	8½	Highbury Hse	8½	- 1		
230	185	Holder H'ldn	185		4.4	14.0
285	249	Hunte Coutts	252½	...	2.7	52.9
394½	295	IBC	382½		3.0	13.8

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
104½	80½	J Fry 2nd U	102½		9.1	13.9
106½	82½	J Fry Euro U	106½	+ ½	5.2	17.1
165½	119	JF Fledg Jap	151½		..	..
110½	92½	Jupiter Ex Inc	103½		9.7	10.0
14½	3½	Jupiter Ex IncWt	9½			
88	76½	Jupiter Grd Cap	85	+ ½	11.5	10.5
38	31	Jupiter Grd Pfd	37½	+ ½		
139	120½	Jupiter Intl Gro	136½		3.6	...
378½	293	Kiwi Chrt	375½		0.8	56.0
116½	98½	Klwd E Mid	112	+ 1		
170½	153½	Klwd End	166½			

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
733½	572½	Man Utd	656½	+ 5½	1.0	30.0
91	67½	Mandarin Orntl	70½	- ½	5.3	
412½	347½	Millennium & Cop	361	+ 1	1.6	15.2
1½	1	Mitchell Hldgs▲	1½		..	
144½	113½	Newcastle Utd	123½		1.6	
280	191½	Northern	258		2.5	23.0
188½	117½	Prism Leisure†	170	+ ½	5.3	
38	29½	Queensborough	29½	- 1	1.3	11.5
18½	12½	Queens Moat	14	+ ½		9.3
458½	339	Rank Grp	357½	+ 11	5.9	28.4
53½	40½	Ryan Hotels (E)	51		4.3	10.7

quote ref: BC769

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1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
103	74	Klwd H Inc	100		12.7	10.6
340½	261	Klwd O'seas	340½	+ 1½	1.5	68.0
188½	161½	Klwd Smlr	162		2.8	43.3
387	264½	Korea—Euro	327½	+ 4½	0.4	
157½	98½	Latin American	154½	+ 1½		
1129	902½	Law Debenture	1096½	- 1	2.9	33.2
115½	103½	Life Oil Opp	114	+ 1		
133	109½	Lloyds Sm Cap	112	+ 1		
25½	17½	Lloyds Sm Dw	19½	+ ½	26.0	4.9
158½	128	Lloyds Sm Pkg	132	+ 3	3.9	
169½	158½	Lon St Lawrence	169½		4.6	27.2
325½	292½	Lowland	296		4.8	23.0
735	635	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	727½			

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1600	1400	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1400		1.6	..
111½	39½	Sheffield United	48½			
280½	184½	Sinclair (Wm)	226½		4.5	12.9
153½	47	Southampton	89		1.4	
110½	95½	Stakis	102	- 1	2.8	18.1
320	249½	Stanley Leisure	296		1.7	
11	5½	Tandem	5½			
346	348	Tanjong	346		1.3	24.6
210	132	Thistle Hotels	141	- ½	3.3	13.8
142	91	Tottenham Hot	99½		0.8	17.1
115½	93½	Toy Options†	103½		4.5	7.8
280½	197½	VCI	197½	- 5	4.9	10.0
127½	94	Vardon	108½		2.2	15.5

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
721	603	Monks Inv Tst	711½		1.7	57.6
180½	158½	Morg Gren Inc	163½	..	4.7	26.0
74	59½	Morg Wts	66½			
96	69	Morg Lata Amer	94½	+ 1	0.4	..
38	21½	Morg Wts	35½	+ ½		
130½	119½	Murray Ent	122	- ½	3.1	35.6
21½	14½	Murray Ent Wts	15½			
85½	71	Murray Emg Eco	83	- ½	0.6	
21½	14½	Murray Em Ec Wt	17½			
85	66½	Murray Eurot	84		0.7	
419½	364	Murray Income†	416½	+ 1½	4.2	31.0
465½	401½	Murray Intl†	463½		3.6	32.1
201½	192½	Murray S/C OP	201			
240½	163½	Murray S/C Cap	240½	+ ½		
73½	57½	Murray S/C Inc	65		23.9	5.0

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
686½	424	BSkyB	434	+ 8	1.7	27.5
188½	120½	CIA Gp	180	+ 2½	1.6	39.0
590	490	Capital Radio	511		3.1	18.9
577½	472½	Carlton Commnt	477½	- 1½	3.0	14.2
812½	512½	Chrysalis	567½		0.6	
95½	69	City of Lon†	84½	..	8.3	11.1
140	97½	Cordiant	135	..	0.9	
1906½	1431½	Daily Mail	1884½	+ 9½	1.4	32.4
1806½	1331½	Daily Mail 'A'	1886½	+ 18½	1.5	31.0
430	202½	Dorling Kind	213½	- ½	2.6	18.0
831½	715½	EMAP†	808	+ ½	2.0	21.1
705	525	EMI	552½	+ 9½	3.2	40.1
1115½	913½	Elsevier	1098½	- 2½	2.0	
1570	1400	Euromoney Pb	1570	+ 5	4.0	18.6
49	37	Fitch	45½		1.1	12.5

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
243	197½	Jardine Strat	217½	- 2½	4.0	..
155½	112½	Johnson Fry	142½	+ 3	3.5	8.0
600	465	Leopold J	600		4.3	23.0
529½	429½	Liberty Intl	525	- ½	3.8	32.5
437½	299½	Lon Forfaiting	409½	+ 6	3.8	15.2
229½	197½	London Pacific	207		8.4	8.3
111½	85½	Lon Scot Bkt	87½		4.4	15.3
217½	170½	Man ED & F	195		6.9	9.0
1467½	1097½	M & G	1235	+ 7½	3.6	20.3
1469	1172½	MAM	1390	+ 42	4.1	23.0
178½	113½	Paragon†	167	- 3	1.9	7.4
2825	2280	Perpetual	2655	- 7½	3.2	18.9
636½	500	Provident	587½		3.5	20.0
337	303	Rathbone Brs	306½		4.7	12.3
60½	39½	Rea Brothers	40½		3.1	16.2

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
100	100	Treas 7% 1997	100	...	7.00	6.60
101½	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	100		8.74	6.50
106	101	Exch 15% 1997	101	-	14.71	6.64
103½	101	Exch 9¾% 1998	101	-	9.63	6.89
107	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100		7.24	6.98
110½	105	Treas 14% 1998-01	105		13.28	7.03
114	109	Treas 15½% 1998	109	-	14.18	7.02
109	106	Exch 12% 1998	106		11.32	7.04
105½	103	Treas 9½% 1999	103	..	9.20	7.03
111	107	Exch 12¼% 1999	107		11.35	7.03
108	105	Treas 10½% 1999	105		9.93	6.93
99	96	Treas 6% 1999	98	+	6.11	7.04
118	106	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	+	9.61	7.05
106½	104	Conv 9% 2000	104½	+	8.61	7.06
104	102	Treas 8% 2000	102	+	7.78	7.03
119	115	Treas 13% 2000	115½	+	11.26	7.02
112	98	Treas 10% 2001	109	+	9.17	7.09
101	98	Treas 7% 2001	99	+	7.01	7.04

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	97	Treas 7% 2002	99	+	7.01	7.01
127½	109	Treas 9¾% 2002	111½	+	8.77	7.09
105	102	Treas 8% 2003	104½	+	7.66	7.04
116	111	Treas 10% 2003	114	+	8.76	7.08
116	113	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113	+	10.11	7.12
87	82	Fund 3½% 1999-04	86	+	4.03	5.85
114	109	Conv 9½% 2004	113	+	8.35	7.02
99	94	Treas 6¾% 2004	98	+	6.84	6.98
109	104	Treas 8½% 2005	109	+	7.78	7.00
122	110	Conv 9½% 2005	114	+	8.30	7.02
129	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120	+	9.84	7.09
103	98	Treas 7½% 2006	103	+	7.25	6.98
107	99	Treas 7¾% 2006	104	+	7.39	7.01
104	100	Treas 8% 2002-06	103	+	7.74	7.17

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
123	115	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	-	9.78	7.13
111	105	Treas 8½% 2007	110	+	7.68	7.00
102	96	Treas 7¼% 2007	102	+	7.08	6.92
115	108	Treas 9% 2008	115	+	7.78	6.85
108	101	Treas 8% 2009	108	+	7.38	6.95

LONGS (over 15 years)

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
98	86	Treas 6¼% 2010	93	+	6.68	6.95
118	109	Conv 9% 2011	118	+	7.62	6.95
118	109	Treas 9% 2012	118	+	7.57	6.96
89	80	Treas 5½% 2008-12	88	+	6.19	6.88
110	100	Treas 8% 2013	110	+	7.25	6.92
107	98	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	107		7.22	6.94
111	101	Treas 8% 2015	111	+	7.18	6.87
119	107	Treas 8¾% 2017	119	+	7.30	6.91
113	101	Tr 8% 2021	113	+	7.04	6.83

UNDATED

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
50	43	War Ln 3½%	50	+	6.92	..
35	30	Treas 2½%	35		7.07	..
55	49	Consols 4%	55	-	7.26	..

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
114	113	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114	+	..	2.49
187	184	Treas IL 2½% 2001	187	+	2.95	3.64
184	180	Treas IL 2½% 2003	183	+	3.12	3.61
120	117	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	118	+	3.17	3.60
195	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	194	+	3.22	3.54
176	170	Treas IL 2½% 2009	175	+	3.25	3.51
183	178	Treas IL 2½% 2011	182	+	3.28	3.51
150	144	Treas IL 2½% 2013	150	+	3.30	3.51
161	153	Treas IL 2½% 2016	161	+	3.32	3.50
155	147	Treas IL 2½% 2020	155	+	3.37	3.53
128	122	Treas IL 2½% 2024	128	+	3.38	3.52
126	119	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	126	+	3.37	3.52

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
64½	53	Rutland Tst	56½	- 1	3.1	14.4
157½	99½	SEC Group	148½	+ 4½	5.4	8.2
445	302	S & U	335	- 1½	6.7	8.5
1848½	1500	Schroders	1780	- 20	1.4	19.4
1630	1318	Schroders N/V	1560	- 20	1.6	17.2
630	522½	Secure Tst	587½		4.3	13.3
162½	127½	Singer & Fried	142	- ½	4.1	12.2
46½	29½	Tipsey Law	38	- ½	..	
4	2½	Trio Hldgs	3½			...
107½	71	Union	75	...	2.5	...
387½	370	Winlust	387½		4.8	...

PHARMACEUTICALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
285	152½	Brit Biotech	173½	+ 1		
1115	610	Cantab Pharms	690	+ 62½		
673	247½	Celltech	280	- 1½		
443½	228½	Chiroscience	234	+ 1½		
293½	168	Cortecs	177	+ 4½		
1418½	885½	Glaxo Wellc	1329½	- 14½	3.1	27.4
245	148½	ML Laboratories	152½			28.3
330½	208½	Medeva	209½	+ ½	2.8	36.8
403	228½	Peptide Thera	305			
202½	185½	Powderject	197½			
92	24½	Proteus Intl	44½			
737½	272½	Scotia	288			
246	216	Shire Pharms	240½	- 1		
95	64½	SkyePharma	71			
1262½	788½	SmithKline	1220½	- 1	1.7	30.4
382	289½	Therp Anti Inc	309			
707½	405	Vanguard	407½			
435	210	Xenova	261			
2291	1585½	Zeneca	2013	- 39½	2.2	28.5

PRINTING & PAPER

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
142	113	AG Holdings	113½	...	8.8	9.7
782	630	API	632½		2.3	19.2
65	47½	Apo Hole	59½			
202	151	Arjo Wiggins	165½	- 2½	5.7	18.4
24	17½	Bath Press	22½	...	2.8	9.9
450½	368½	Bemrose	368½	- 2	5.1	9.7
229½	130	Bespoke	131		2.4	9.1
3131½	2178½	Bowater Inc	3131½	+ 31½		
321½	252½	Bowater Intl	280½	+ 2	1.4	19.5
745	469	Br Polythene	469	- 5	5.0	9.8
24½	14½	Br Thornton	15½			
148	49	Britton Grp	58½	+ 1	7.1	5.6
234	189	Bunzl	189	- 1	4.2	11.8
233½	153½	Capital Inds	153½		4.8	13.4
388½	312½	Cropper (James)†	315	- 26½	1.8	8.7
673½	323	De La Rue	356½	- 8½	8.4	8.9
257½	195½	Dolphin Pack	232½		3.8	15.2
75½	49½	Fenway Group	49½		10.1	11.5
238	153	Ferguson Intl	154	...	10.8	8.4
165½	134	Filofax	141½		3.3	10.2

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
200½	121	MFI	150½	...	4.1	17.8
600½	458½	Marks Spencer†	578	- 8	2.8	21.6
545	418	Menzies (John)	419		4.2	12.7
27½	22½	Merchant Retail†	25		1.2	17.5
287	231	Moss Bros	237½		2.5	16.5
780	523½	Next	728	+ 1	2.6	23.8
42	27½	Oliver (G)	35½			
535	467	Ottakar Intl	485		3.3	
75½	69½	Partridge Fine	75		5.5	13.3
47½	28½	QS Hldgs	35			
337½	256½	Ramsdyn	285		3.4	15.5
142½	52½	Sava Group	56½		15.7	4.4
95½	61½	Sears	65	- 2	7.8	16.0
36½	26½	Signet Group	31½			18.8
484½	333½	Smith WH	380	- 1½	5.4	
1110	910	Sotheby's	990	- 2½	2.4	
305½	184	Stoneheuse†	216½	+ ½	4.7	13.4
150	107	Style	131½		4.6	33.2
202½	152½	T & S Stores	168		5.7	10.1
288½	149	Thorn	171	+ 3	11.3	11.2
203½	137½	Tie Rack†	140½		3.0	13.4
340	205½	UNO	275		2.1	
4	3	Upton & South	3½			15.4
543½	436½	Vendome	450	- 2½	2.9	16.8
26	4½	WEW Group	5			4.2
417½	132½	Wickes	178			
313½	232½	Wyevale	278½	- 9	2.7	20.0

SUPPORT SERVICES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
525	388	AEA Tech†	432½		2.4	21.8
114	94	Alpha Airpts	94½	..	6.9	11.3
48	34½	Alphameric	42			20.8
58	29½	Amec Grp	32			
387½	254	Allums WS1	283½	+ 2	3.0	..
188½	122½	BNB Res	123½	- 1½	7.7	6.0
457½	394½	BPP	417½		2.9	18.3
182½	95	BSM	101½		8.3	7.6
699	416	BTG†	651½		0.2	
89½	69½	Brooks Service	83½		5.2	12.7
510	432	Business Post	438		3.0	20.9
1500	840	CMG	1420	- 5	0.5	51.9
250½	222½	CRT Gp	228½	+ 3	2.3	28.2
805	590	Caird Gp	657½		1.5	6.4
275½	181½	Capita Group	251½		0.8	53.3
9	6½	Chemex	6½		3.0	11.9
456	308	Chubb Sec	454		2.4	22.1
238	172½	Corp Services	182		3.4	15.3
58½	27½	Coulls Cnsltg	36	+ 1	6.0	11.6
346	217½	DCS Gp	240½	+ 1	0.8	19.7
272½	232½	Davis Service	267½	- 1½	4.8	14.8
910	685	Delphi	687½		1.1	30.8
390	290	Diagonal	336			43.7
252	170	Dudley Jenkins	227½	+ 7	2.6	18.4
79½	37	EW Fact	44		5.7	7.0
100	57½	El Data Prct	64½		4.3	13.7
602	479	FI Group†	538½		1.2	
593	516	Hays	564½	- 11½	1.9	33.5
313½	194½	Hogg Robinson†	227½	- 1	5.5	10.9
1005	530	JBA Hldgs	837½	+ 5	0.8	44.5
295	221½	Johnson Clean	237	...	6.2	9.7
114½	60	Kalamazoo†	77½		6.9	11.2
647	521½	Kewill Syst	645		1.9	15.9
37½	18½	Laser-Scan	17½			28.6
278½	155½	Larendon	242½		1.8	18.6

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

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DISTRIBUTORS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

هكذا من الأصل

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Richard Evans and **Chris McGrath** assess the leading players in a race to savour at Ascot

Helissio can prove king in battle of wits

THE epithets have flowed thick and fast in recent days. What began, immodestly enough, as the Race of the Year, soon developed into the Race of the Decade. before being saddled with a midweek description as the best race for 30 years. not to mention unofficial world championship.— and all before a horse was within a hundred miles of the stalls for the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes to be run at Ascot this afternoon.

Without wishing to take issue with any of those labels for a race which is potentially the most exciting I can recall, let me offer one further observation which will almost certainly help to determine the result of today's explosive encounter. Above all, this is a tactical battle of such proportions that it will make a chess game between Garry Kasparov and the Deep Blue computer resemble a simple game of noughts and crosses.

The main characters need little introduction. Helissio. winner of eight of his ten starts including last year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe: Pilsudski, the Breeders' Cup Turf hero and recent Eclipse Stakes winner; and Singspiel, who ended last year winning the Japan Cup before landing the Coronation Cup with consummate ease this spring, are the best grass horses in the world. But what makes today's mile-and-a-half championship so fascinating is the knowledge that it should answer the question: who is the best?

> 'This should answer the question: who is the best?'

The form book says it is Helissio, who has twice accounted for Pilsudski on his favoured soft ground, but could only finish in a dead-heat for third behind Singspiel on rock hard ground in the Japan Cup last November.

The Elie Lellouche-trained colt did not race as a two-year-old but won his first race at three by ten lengths and then scored by four lengths in his next start, a group two race. Jockey error was blamed for his defeat in the French Derby, which resulted in Olivier Peslier taking over and turning the Fairy King colt into a front-running conqueror — and therein lies the rub.

With Peslier unable to ride Helissio last time, Cash Asmussen took over and retains the ride today. The Texan, better known for his come-from-behind style of riding, successfully adopted front-running tactics when steering Helissio to an easy success in the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud last month.

However, today Asmussen is unlikely to enjoy an uncontested lead which appears to suit Helissio so well. Just who will take on the favourite is unclear, but with Sheikh Mohammed fielding four runners, including the Godolphin pair, it seems inevitable one will be sacrificed to take on the favourite in an attempt to unsettle his normal style of running. My guess is that Swain will be sacrificed for the part. Either way, it seems unlikely Asmussen's rivals will allow him to sail along in front and wait until the last half-mile before delivering their challenges.

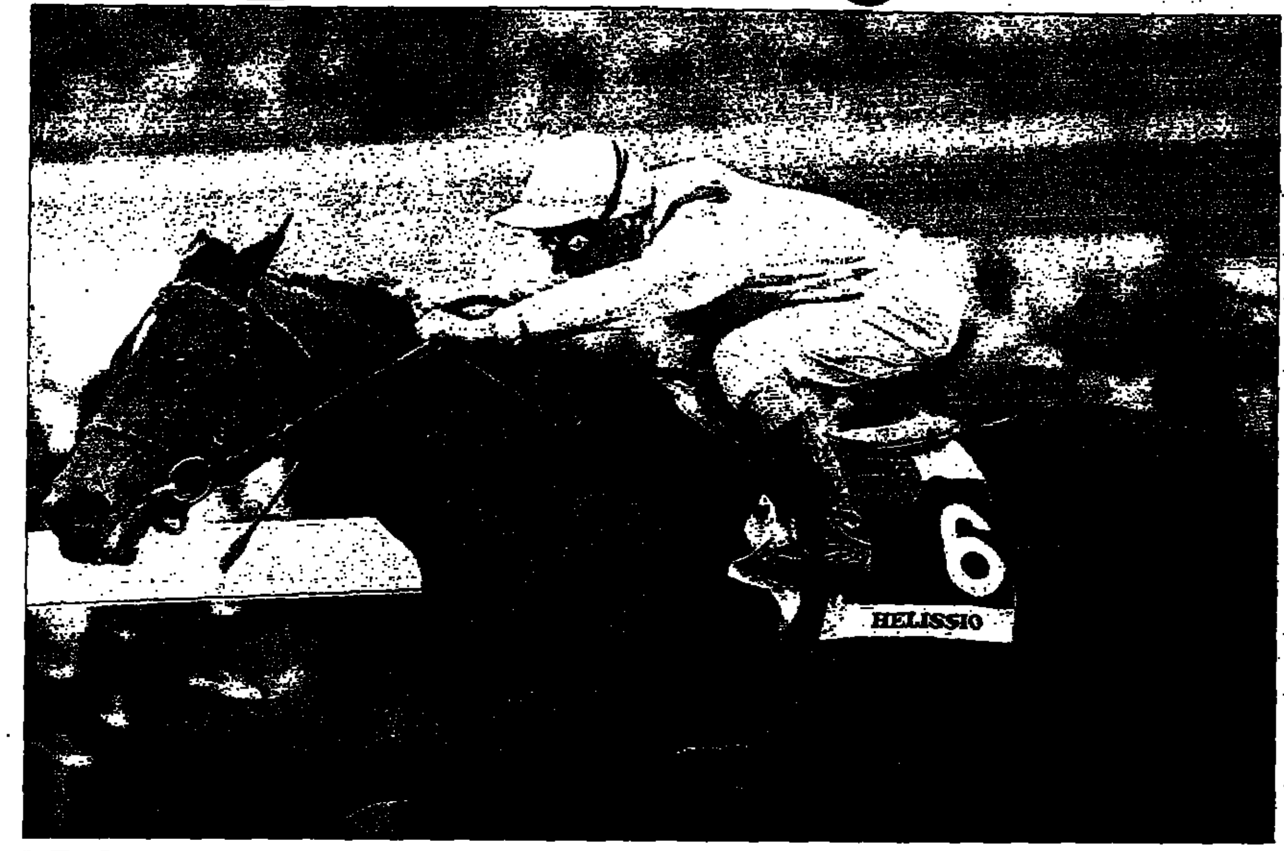
Asmussen is on record as saying he will not mind if another horse leads early on. Helissio's views are unknown. If he is a true champion, he will adapt and prevail. Should he demur, then look elsewhere for the winner.

With genuinely good ground on offer, Pilsudski, who is still on the upgrade, looks best placed to take advantage. Of course, it is dangerous to assume only three horses are in with a chance. Kingfisher Mill is improving by leaps and bounds while Gary Stevens is not flying in from America to partner Predappio just for the fun of it.

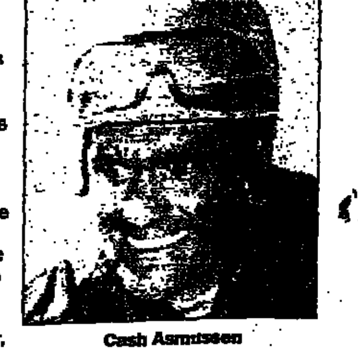
Given the equine talent on show and the uncertainty surrounding the outcome of the inevitable tactical battle, this is a race to savour rather than to bet on. If forced to nominate the winner, Helissio would be my choice to emulate the mighty Ribot, the only Arc winner to claim the King George the following season. From a betting standpoint, Pilsudski is the each-way value.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ALHAWA
(5.00 Ascot)
Next best: Decorated Hero
(4.00 Newcastle)



HELISSIO
Career record (1996-97): 11151113-11
Prize-money won: £1,247,407



Cash Asmussen

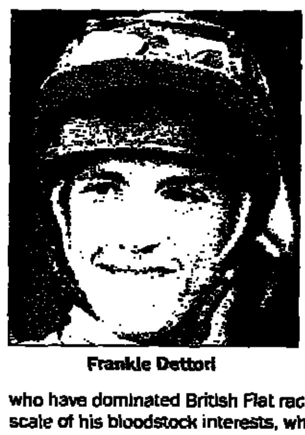
HORSE: The four-year-old Helissio has the swagger of a champion and his five-length defeat of Pilsudski in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe last autumn had an air of grandeur. Two question marks arose from his subsequent defeat in Tokyo. Can he reproduce his very best on firm ground, and away from the home comforts of his local tracks?

OWNER: Enrique Sarasola, who made his fortune in cement-mixing, has a string of 250 racehorses in his native Spain. During the failed military coup of 1981, Sarasola dashed across Madrid to take into hiding the family of his close friend, the prime minister, Felipe González. Bought Helissio for just 350,000 francs (about £34,000) at Deauville sales; rejected a Japanese bid of $25 million after last year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

TRAINER: Elie Lellouche has saddled three group one winners from six runners in Britain. Raised in Tunisia, the 45-year-old's career has really flourished during the Nineties, thanks principally to the backing of the art dealer, Daniel Wildenstein.

JOCKEY: Cash Asmussen, an articulate, confident and cosmopolitan Texan, divides British punters into two schools. One mistrusts his penchant for cool waiting tactics, the other reveres his flair. Asmussen, who first came to work in Paris in 1982, is Helissio's third jockey. Dominique Boeuf lost the ride for an error of judgment in the French Derby last year; more recently, Olivier Peslier could not guarantee his availability because of existing commitments. "I'm confident he'll act at Ascot, where the track is always in perfect condition with a good covering of grass. If the pace is too hot early on, I'll lay off. If it's not, I'll let him stride out. I'm not bothered about the others, though they're all champions in their own right. Singspiel looks the main danger."

SINGSPIEL
[illegible]: 512-242221-1221121-11
Prize-money won: [illegible]787 (European record)



Frankie Dettori

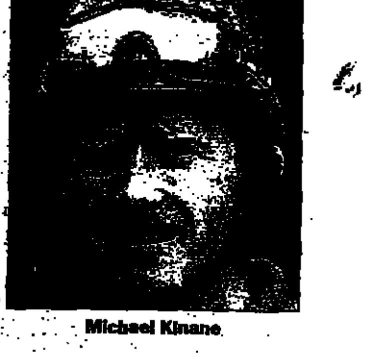
HORSE: The five-year-old Singspiel, out of the first two just once in 17 starts since his debut, has improved with his racing and is better than ever. Has become a regular world traveller, adding victory in the Dubai World Cup this spring to his success in the Japan Cup last autumn. Did not have to be at his best to win at Epsom on his return to the domestic scene, however, and, given that his career-best effort was over ten furlongs on dirt, could prove vulnerable if the emphasis is heavily on stamina.

OWNER: Sheikh Mohammed, the defence minister of Dubai, is the youngest of the Maktoum brothers, who have dominated British Flat racing over the past 15 years. The vast scale of his bloodstock interests, which produced Singspiel, does not diminish a true passion for the racehorse, which has also found energetic personal expression in the pioneering Godolphin operation, which is represented today by Swain and Predappio. Shantou also carries the sheikh's colours.

TRAINER: Michael Stoute, son of the chief of police in Barbados, has four times been champion trainer, reaching new peaks over the past year with the exploits of Singspiel and Pilsudski. Began the year by winning the 2,000 Guineas with Entrepreneur. At 51, Stoute is probably the best all-rounder in the business.

JOCKEY: Frankie Dettori, the 26-year-old son of a former Italian champion, returns to the stage where, last autumn, he rode all seven winners, sealing a niche in the hearts of a wider sporting public. His own heart has been aflutter, too; he married last Sunday. "My horse is the one who has no requirements. He can cope with everything; a mile and a half or a mile and a quarter, firm ground or easy ground, fast pace or slow."

PILSUDSKI
Career record (1994-95-96-97): 68-20113-2181121-321
Prize-money won: £1,321,425



Michael Kinane

HORSE: The five-year-old Pilsudski takes a lot of getting fit and needed his first two races this term. Although the unlucky Bosra Sham stole his show when he won the Eclipse, he reminded us of his fighting spirit. Defeated Singspiel in the Breeders' Cup Turf at Woodbine, Toronto last autumn, but, sturdily built and round-actioned, he does need easier ground to show his best, and has never won at Ascot.

OWNER: Lord Weinstock, after taking a back seat at GEC, was no doubt expecting to indulge his twin passions, the Turf and Mozart, without a care in the world. But he lost his son, Simon, last year at the age of 44. He is persisting with the family's bloodstock interests only in memorial to Simon, who had become the driving force (they bred Pilsudski at their Ballymacoll Stud in Ireland). Weinstock, 73 next week, won this race in successive years with Troy in 1979, in partnership with Sir Michael Sobell, and Ela-Mana-Mou.

TRAINER: Michael Stoute holds a powerful hand with Pilsudski and Singspiel.

JOCKEY: Michael Kinane established himself as an indomitable big-race rider when beating Old Vic aboard Sheikh Mohammed's second string, Belmez, in the 1990 running of today's race. His only other rides have finished first (Kings Theatre 1994) and second (Classic Cliché last year). Kinane, 38, has been Irish champion ten times and shared a ground-breaking success with Vintage Crop in the 1993 Melbourne Cup. "Helissio has beaten my horse twice, but when I rode him in the spring he was very backward, and there is no doubt that he is a different horse now. He didn't get the credit he deserved for winning the Eclipse."

BIG RACE LINE-UP

3.50 KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH DIAMOND STAKES (Group I: £294,600: 1m 4f) (8 runners) BBC1

401 (2) 1113-11 HELISSIO 27 (D,F,G,S) (E Sarasola) E Lellouche (Fr) 4-9-7 ... C Asmussen 98
(b c Fairy King - Helice) (Yellow, green epaulets)
402 (8) 121-321 PILSUDSKI 21 (D,F,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 5-9-7 .... M J Kinane 99
(b h Polish Precedent - Cocotte) (Pale blue, white and yellow check cap)
403 (7) 2311-21 PREDAPPIO 36 (CD,F,G,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-7 . G Stevens 94
(b c Polish Precedent - Khalafiya) (Royal blue)
404 (1) 1114-11 SHANTOU 18 (D,F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-9-7 ... .. G Hind 94
(b c Alleged - Shaima) (Maroon, white sleeves, white cap)
405 (6) 1121-11 SINGSPIEL 50 (D,F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 5-9-7 .. L Dettori 95
(b h In The Wings - Glorious Song) (Maroon, white sleeves, maroon cap, white star)
406 (4) 0133-54 STRATEGIC CHOICE 41 (D,F,G) (M Arbib) P Cole 6-9-7 .. . . R Cochrane 83
(b h Alleged - Danlu) (Yellow, royal blue cross of lorraine, armlets and cap)
407 (5) 12143-2 SWAIN 18 (BF,D,F,G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 5-9-7 . . . J Reid 93
(b h Nashwan - Love Smitten) (Royal blue, white cap)
408 (3) 0-141 KINGFISHER MILL 36 (CD,G,S) (Lord H De Walden) Mrs J Cecil 3-8-9 Pat Eddery 90
(ch c Riverman - Charming Life) (Apricot)

BETTING: Coral: 13-8 Helissio 15-8 Singspiel, 11-2 Pilsudski, 8-1 Predappio, 14-1 Swain Kingfisher Mill, 20-1 Shantou, 50-1 Strategic Choice

Ladbrokes: 6-4 Helissio, 9-4 Singspiel 9-2 Pilsudski 9-1 Predappio 12-1 Swain 14-1 Kingfisher Mill, 16-1 Shantou, 66-1 Strategic Choice

Tote: 13-8 Helissio, 9-4 Singspiel 6-1 Pilsudski 7-1 Predappio 12-1 Swain, Kingfisher Mill 20-1 Shantou 50-1 Strategic Choice

William Hill 11-8 Helissio 9-4 Singspiel, 5-1 Pilsudski 8-1 Predappio, 11-1 Kingfisher Mill 14-1 Swain 25-1 Shantou 66-1 Strategic Choice

1996: PENTIRE 4-9-7 M Hills (100-30) G Wragg 8 ran

Form guide in full

HELISSIO

Jun 29 Saint-Cloud, soft (9-2) beat Magellano (8-8) 5l (1m 4f, group I, £134,680 4 ran).

Apr 27 Longchamp, soft (9-2) beat Le Destin (9-2) 6l with Pilsudski (9-2) 1¼l 3rd and Strategic Choice (9-2) 5l 5th (1m 2f 110yd, group I, £56 117. 8 ran)

Nov 24, 1996. Tokyo, firm see Singspiel

Oct 6. 1996 Longchamp good to soft (8-11) beat Pilsudski (9-5) 5l with Swain (9-5) short-neck and 1l 4th (1m 4f, group I, £527,009 16 ran)

PILSUDSKI

Jul 5. Sandown, good to soft (9-7) beat Benny The Dip (8-10) 1¼l (1m 2f, group I, £145,440, 5 ran)

Jun 20, Ascot, good see Predappio

Apr 27 Longchamp, soft see Helissio

Oct 26, 1996, Toronto good (9-0) beat Singspiel (9-0, 1¼l, with Swain (9-0) 1¼l 3rd and Shantou (9-0) 2¼l 4th (1m 4f, grade I £670,968. 14 ran)

PREDAPPIO

Jun 20 Ascot, good (8-12) beat Pilsudski (9-0) ½l (1m 4f group II £74 611. 10 ran).

May 27 Sandown, good to firm (9-1) ½l 2nd to Bosra Sham (9-0) (1m 2f, group III, £18,640. 6 ran)

SHANTOU

Jul 8 Newmarket, good (9-7) beat Swain (9-7) head (1m 4f group II, £32,008, 7 ran)

Jun 15 San Siro, good (9-7) beat Luso (9-7) 1¼l with Strategic Choice (9-7) 1¼l 4th (1m 4f, group I, £251,481, 6 ran)

Oct 26, 1996. Toronto, good see Pilsudski.

SINGSPIEL

Jun 6. Epsom, good (9-0) beat Dushyantor (9-0) 5l (1m 4f, group I, £113,895, 5 ran)

Apr 3. Nad Al Sheba fast (9-0) beat Siphon (9-0) 1¼l (1m 2f, £1.4m 12 ran)

Nov 24, Tokyo firm (8-13) beat Fabulous La Fouine (8-5) nose with Strategic Choice (8-13) and Helissio (8-9) dead-heated for 3rd (1m 4f £1 1m, 15 ran).

STRATEGIC CHOICE

Jun 15. San Siro good, see Shantou.

Apr 27, Longchamp, soft see Helissio.

Nov 24 1996 Tokyo firm see Singspiel.

SWAIN

Jul 8, Newmarket, good see Shantou.

Oct 26, 1996, Toronto, good see Pilsudski

Oct 6, 1996, Longchamp, good to soft see Helissio.

KINGFISHER MILL

Jun 20, Ascot, soft (8-8) beat Palio Sky (8-3) 8l (1m 4f, group II, £73,384, 5 ran)

May 14, York, good (8-11) 3¼l 4th to Benny The Dip (8-11) (1m 2f 85yd, group II, £79,190, 9 ran)

Selection: SINGSPIEL (nap)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Ascot

Going: good (good to firm in places)

2.15 (6f) 1, **SHUHRAH** (L Dettori 6-4); 2, **Ashraakat** (R Hills, 4-6 fav) 3, **Royal Shyness** (Paul Eddery, 11-1) ALSO RAN 33 Glitter Princess (4th) 50 Abako Lyons (5th). 5 ran 1½l, ¾l, 4l, 1¾l S bin Suroor at Newmarket Tote £2 40, £1 30, £1 30 DF, £1 20 CSF £2 66

2.45 (2m 45yd) 1, **RUSK** (N Day 20-1), 2 **Benjamins Law** (J Fowle, 25-1), 3, **Magic Combination** (L Dettori 11-2) ALSO RAN 9-4 fav Bolivar (6th). 9-2 Spy Knoll (4th), 8 Burnt Offering. Shining Dancer 12 Salska (5th) 14 Alwarqa 20 Paradise Navy 10 ran. Hd, 1l nk, nk, 3½l J Pearce at Newmarket Tote £39 30, £7 00 £4 60 £1 60 DF £138.00. Trio £400 70 CSF £379 54 Tricast £2 821 64 After a stewards' inquiry, the result stood.

3.15 (5f) 1, **BLESSINGINDISGUISE** (M J Kinane, 11-2), 2, **Surprise Mission** (J Fortune, 5-1 fav) 3, **Moon Strike** (A Munro, 11-2) ALSO RAN 9 Blue Iris Crofters Ceilidh, 10 Twice As Sharp, World Premier (5th) 12 Prince Dome (6th) 16 Fond Embrace, 20 Canovas Heart, 25 Passion For Life Rushcutter Bay (4th), 33 Johnny Staccato 13 ran 1½l, hd, ½l, 1l, dd-ht M W Easterby at Sheriff Hutton Tote £6.00, £1 80 £2 10 £2.60. DF £10.20 Trio £9 30 CSF £27.22. Tricast £148 67 After a stewards inquiry the result stood.

3.50 (1m 2f) 1 **MANAZIL** (R Hills, 8-1) 2, **Rudimental** (S Sanders 5-1); 3, **Kewarra** (T Sprake, 16-1) ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Song Of Freedom (5th). 13-2 Regal Thunder, 9 Pinchincha (4th), 11 Vain Tempest, 14 Byzantium 16 Another Night (6th). 33 Russian Ruler Sheer Face 11 ran 1¾l, 1l, ½l hd, 1l R Armstrong at Newmarket Tote £8 70: £2 60, £1 90, £3.70 DF £19 10 Trio £61 40 CSF. £42.26 Tricast £564 50

4.25 (7f) 1, **SETTEEN** (L Dettori, 15-8 fav) 2, **Celtic Pageant** (S Sanders, 25-1), 3, Quiet Assurance (K Fallon, 4-1) ALSO RAN 13-2 Somayda (5th), 7 Rainbow High (4th) 9 Speedfit Too (6th), 16 Angstrom 7 ran NR Sening Gifts 2l, 7l 2l, 4l, 2l M Jarvis at Newmarket Tote £2 30 £1 60, £3 80 DF £33 00 CSF £34.22 Sening Gifts (5-1) was withdrawn not under orders — rule 4 applies, deduct 15p in pound

> **Thunderer selected Cherokee Flight, a 25-1 winner at Wolverhampton yesterday**

5 00 (1m 2f) 1 **KAYF TARA** (M J Kinane, 5-2) 2 **Shaya** (R Hills, 9-4 fav), 3, **Sasleya** (L Dettori 11-4) ALSO RAN, 5 Bina Gardens (4th), 16 Moran, 20 Kristal Bridge (6th), 40 Just Alex (5th), 66 Primero. 8 ran 3l hd, 7l 2l, 5l M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £2.90; £1 50, £1.10, £1 30. DF £3.20. CSF: £7 92

Jackpot: not won (pool of £10,878.31 carried forward to Ascot today).

Placepot: £57.90. **Quadpot:** £7.30.

Thirsk

Going: good

2.05 (6f) 1, Hell-Hitch (W Ryan, 10-1); 2, Likely Story (1-2 fav); 3, Dolciana (10-1). 6 ran. NR: Essandess, Friendly Warning 2l, 9l O Loder. Tote £6.30; £2.50, £1 20 DF £3.10 CSF: £14.75

2.35 (6f) 1. Banzoe (D Harrison, 9-4 fav); 2, Grand Chapeau (12-1); 3, Camionneur (9-1) 4, Tiler (8-1) 16 ran, Nk, 3l Mrs J Ramsden Tote £3 00; £1 50, £2 50, £1 80, £1 90 DF £45.20 Trio £137 20. CSF £31.53 Tricast: £219.03

3.05 (1m 4f) 1, Bally Souza (J Weaver, 10-11 fav), 2, Canton Venture (3-1): 3, In The Money (5-1) 5 ran. 2½l, 5l M Johnston Tote: £1 80, £1 10, £2.10. DF £2 40 CSF. £3 66

3.40 (7f) 1, Alconleigh (J Weaver, 11-10); 2, Belladera (5-6 fav) 3, Two Williams (16-1) 3 ran 2½l 1l M Johnston. Tote: £1.80 DF £1 10 CSF £2 19

4.10 (7f) 1, Caribbean Star (W Ryan, 5-2 fav): 2, Bamburgh Boy (9-2): 3, Beyond Calculation (100-30). 11 ran. Nk, 2½l. M Stoute Tote £4.40, £1 50, £1.40, £2.20. DF £5 60 Trio £17.50 CSF £12 45

4.40 (1m) 1, Polarize (K Darley, 7-2); 2, Inkwell (3-1), 3, Mutahadeth (6-1) Bollero 11-4 fav 13 ran. NR: Zanabay. 3l, hd, T Barron Tote £5.70: £1.70, £1.40, £2 80 DF. £10.00. Trio: £36 50 CSF: £14.14. Tricast £84.47 No bid for the winner.

5.15 (1m) 1, Roseate Lodge (Jenny Benson, 7-1); 2, Eurobox Boy (11-2 jt-fav): 3, Fancy A Fortune (11-2 jt-fav). Queens Consul 11-2 jt-fav 12 ran. NR: She's Simply Great. ½l, nk. S Kettlewell. Tote: £11 80, £2.70, £2.90, £2.10. DF. £35.40. Trio: £154.60 CSF. £44.45. Tricast: £219 08

Placepot: £22.40.

Quadpot: £10.30.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

1.55 (5f) 1, Hajat (P Fessey, 3-1); 2, Master Foley (5-2 fav); 3, Midnight Times (25-1) 7 ran, Hd, 1¼l. J Berry. Tote £3.40; £2.00. £2 40. DF. £5.10. CSF: £11.03.

2.25 (1m 100yd) 1, Colins Choice (P Fessey, 16-1): 2, Failed To Hit (10-1): 3, The Executor (7-2 fav). 11 ran. Nk, hd. J Spearing. Tote £23.70; £3.10, £3.40, £1.80. DF £82.50 Trio £136 90 (part won Pool of £11.57 carried forward to Ascot 5 35 today). CSF: £146 22. After stewards inquiry, the result stood.

2.55 (6f) 1, Carambo (M Gallagher, 7-1): 2, Kennet (10-1), 3, American Cousin (3-1). Fast Franc 11-4 fav 8 ran 7l, hd. J Eyre. Tote £5 20; £1.50, £2.30, £1 60, DF: £93 80. CSF £69 50. Tricast £235.14

3.25 (6f) 1, Mike's Double (R Ffrench, 5-4), 2, Nobalino (8-1), 3, Castle Ashby Jack (4-5 fav) 7 ran 1¼l, 2½l, Miss G Kelleway. Tote £2.60; £1 00, £5 30. DF. £15.70. CSF £11 19

4.00 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Cherokee Flight (J Quinn, 25-1), 2, Sparky (8-1), 3, Bon Guest (9-1). Fife Major 9-4 fav 13 ran. 1l, 2½l S Mellor. Tote £36.80; £2 60, £3 40, £2.70. DF £73.00 Trio £71 80 CSF £187.32. Tricast £1,783 35

4.35 (7f) 1, Operatic (M Fenton, 4-1): 2, Katie's Cracker (5-1); 3, Last Lap (10-1). Slew Magic 9-4 fav. 8 ran. ¾l, 3½l. M Bell Tote £4 10 £1.40, £1 70. £2.40. DF £21.20 CSF £24.07. Winner bought in 4,200 guineas.

5.10 (2m 46yd) 1, Lake Dominion (Mr J Owen, 50-1); 2, Stalled (9-4 fav): 3, Anan Spirit (5-1). 12 ran. ¾l, 1¼l. K Comerford. Tote. £91 00: £14.60, £1 90, £2 00 DF £148.50 Trio £216 90 (part won. Pool of £6.11 carried forward to Ascot 5.35 today). CSF: £137 75. Tricast £631 06

Placepot: £522.90.

Quadpot: £46.40.

Shuhrah heads betting on 1,000 Guineas

SHUHRAH, owned by Godolphin, upset the hot favourite, Ashraakat, at Ascot yesterday to become the new favourite for next year's 1,000 Guineas. She was promoted to 16-1 market leader by William Hill after securing a 1½-length victory in the Timeform Charity Day Maiden Stakes.

Ashraakat, closely related to the Irish 1,000 Guineas winner, Mehthaaf, had been backed during the week into 20-1 for the Guineas and came to Ascot with a tall reputation. But Frankie Dettori took Shuhrah into the lead from the outset and the filly always appeared to have the race at her mercy.

While Ashraakat fought with Royal Shyness for room to challenge, Dettori kept up the gallop to win going away. "We heard that the runner-up was a seriously good filly and slightly lost confidence about our chance," Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said. "She's been working for quite some time and a couple of niggling problems have kept her off the track till now.

"I hope she will do well in the autumn. I think for the moment we will keep her to six furlongs but she certainly seems to have an engine and has bags of potential."

John Dunlop could not disguise his disappointment with the performance of Ashraakat, who started 6-4 on favourite. He said: "On this performance, she's not as good as everyone has been saying she is, but I suppose it depends how good the winner is. I can't say that I've got any plans at all for her now."

☐ There are ten acceptors for the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood next Wednesday: Alhaarth, Ali-Royal, Allied Forces, Gothenberg, Air Express, Among Men, Faithful Son, Starborough, Wolf Mountain and Classic Park. Ladbrokes bets: 6-4 Starborough, 5-1 Air Express, Among Men, 7-1 Alhaarth, Allied Forces, 8-1 Ali-Royal, 9-1 Faithful Son, 12-1 others.

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William HILL

KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH DIAMOND STAKES
1 mile 4 furlongs. Ascot 3.50pm, Live on BBC TV.

11/8	Helissio
9/4	Singspiel
5/1	Pilsudski
8/1	Predappio
11/1	Kingfisher Mill
14/1	Swain
25/1	Shantou
66/1	Strategic Choice

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RACING

Cape Cross to shine

ASCOT

BBC1

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.00: This is invariably contested by top-class juveniles and all bar Deep Space and Paddy McGoon hold big-race entries. Peter Walwyn has a good record and runs Najjar. However, the pair to concentrate on are Mutawwaj, who has been pleasing on the gallops, and Social Charter. Peter Chapple-Hyam has an excellent strike rate with his two-year-olds and this Nureyev colt's Gimcrack, Middle Park, Dewhurst and Derby entries follow good work at home.

2.35: Of the nine runners for this ladies' race, only two can be given a chance. Yorkshire, who was considered group one material, has failed to live up to expectations, but the Generous colt has shown respectable form in conditions events and the German Derby. However, it will be a big surprise if Cape Cross, partnered by the excellent Lydia Pearce, does not land the diamonds. Third in the Craven Stakes and eighth in the 2,000 Guineas, the John Gosden-trained Green Desert colt worked in sparkling style recently.

3.05: Miss Zafonic looked far from wound up when impressing on her debut at Windsor, winning readily in a decent time. The form looks decent and Richard Hannon's filly is open to considerable improvement. Forest Treasure, third in the Cherry Hinton, looks as though she will need further, unlike Socket Set, whose two victories have been over the minimum. The well-touted Embassy obliged on her debut at Newmarket and, although the form has taken a couple of knocks, David Loder's Cadeaux Genereux filly should improve.

3.50: See facing page.

RICHARD EVANS

JULIAN HERBERT / ALLSPORT

Rusk, nearside, defies top weight in the Brown Jack Handicap at Ascot yesterday

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.15 Miss Salsa Dancer. 2.50 Party Romance. 3.25 *Daynabee. 4.00 Wizard King. 4.35 Pride Of Pendle.* 5.05 Daawe.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 DECORATED HERO.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,230: 6f) (10 runners)

1 (10) .00 REACH FOR A STAR 28 C Thornton 8-12 .... E Johnson –
2 (3) CARRICK VIEW P Calver 8-9 .... J Fortune –
3 (4) KAYO T Etherington 8-9 .... A Culhane –
4 (6) 222 PANAMA HOUSE 8 T Easterby 8-9 .... J Carroll [illegible]
5 (8) COOL PROSPECT A Mulholland 8-8 .... T Lucas –
6 (9) ONE TO GO J Berry 8-7 .... T E Durcan (5) –
7 (5) DARWELL'S FOLLY M Johnston 8-6 .... D Holland –
8 (7) 0 LAVERNOCK LADY 14 J J Quinn 8-1 .... Dale Gibson –
9 (1) 5 MISS SALSA DANCER 7 D Smith 8-1 .... P Fessey (3) 81
10 (2) 0 DOUBLE APPEAL 22 J H Wilson 8-0 .... N Varley –

2-1 Panama House, 3-1 Darwell's Folly, 9-2 Miss Salsa Dancer, 6-1 others.

2.50 ELDON GARDEN SHOPPING HANDICAP
(£3,469: 1m 2f 32yd) (8)

1 (6) -815 FLYING NORTH 21 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-12 .... A Culhane 93
2 (4) 1200- PARTY ROMANCE 17 (D,G) B Hanbury 3-9-6 .... W Ryan 98
3 (7) 2100 CAN CAN LADY 10 (C,F,G) M Johnston 3-9-4 .... K M Chin (3) 93
4 (5) 0205 LAY THE BLAME 7 (F,S) M Hammond 4-9-3 .... J Carroll 93
5 (2) 6505 ROYAL CEILIDH 7 (C,F,G) D Smith 4-9-2 .... J Fortune 93
6 (3) 0400 BULSARA 8 (CD,F) C Fairhurst 5-7-12 .... K Sked (5) [illegible]
7 (8) 4502 KEEP BATTLING 14 (D,F,G) J Goldie 7-7-10 .... P Fessey (3) 90
8 (1) 0/66 BOLD APPEAL 19 W Storey 5-7-10 .... Darren Moffatt (3) 93

7-2 Flying North, 4-1 Party Romance, 5-1 Can Can Lady, 6-1 others.

3.25 NORTH EAST SLAG CEMENT LTD SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,285: 6f) (10)

1 (1) 2404 MAKAHU DON 8 (F) W Kemp 9-2 .... K Darley 80
2 (10) 5150 WILFRED SHERMAN 23 J Berry 9-2 .... T E Durcan (5) 79
3 (3) 0306 SNAPPY TIMES 11 M Dods 8-12 .... Dale Gibson 86
4 (6) 4221 DAYNABEE 9 (S) N Tinkler 8-11 .... Kim Tinkler 84
5 (2) 406 CHARDANIA 75 J H Wilson 8-7 .... J Carroll 72
6 (4) 6683 COSMIC CASE 8 J Goldie 8-7 .... T Williams 73
7 (7) 00 LA VASO VERDI 8 R Whitaker 8-7 .... D McKeown –
8 (5) 5225 PATSY CULSYTH 11 (BF) M Johnston 8-7 .... D Holland [illegible]
9 (9) 04 PRIDE OF BRYN 8 D Smith 8-7 .... P Fessey (3) 80
10 (8) 000 SHIRLEYS GIRL 19 W Storey 8-7 .... J Fanning –

5-2 Patsy Culsyth, 7-2 Daynabee, 9-2 Cosmic Case, 6-1 Makahu Don, 8-1 others.

4.00 THOMAS LONSDALE GALLAGHER BEESWING STAKES
(Group III: £18,729: 7f) (8)

1 (7) 3200 LUCAYAN PRINCE 16 (B,D,F) D Loder 4-9-4 .... R Hughes 89
2 (3) 2011 RAMOOZ 13 (D,F,G,S) B Hanbury 4-9-4 .... W Ryan 91
3 (1) 1231 WIZARD KING 45 (D,F,G,S) M Prescott 6-9-4 .... S Sanders 90
4 (5) -611 DECORATED HERO 8 (D,F,S) J Gosden 5-9-0 .... A McGlone [illegible]
5 (4) 4232 HOW LONG 16 (D,F) L Cumani 4-9-0 .... K Darley 91
6 (2) 2026 KALA SUNRISE 15 (F,G) C Smith 4-9-0 .... J Fortune 70
7 (8) -114 CAPTAIN COLLINS 38 (D,F,S) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-7 .... D Holland 81
8 (6) 6-03 WIND CHEETAH 28 (F) M Stoute 3-8-7 .... F Lynch 84

9-4 Decorated Hero, 7-2 Wizard King, 9-2 Ramooz, Wizard King, 6-1 How Long, 8-1 Lucayan Prince, 10-1 Wind Cheetah, 12-1 Captain Collins, 33-1 Kala Sunrise

4.35 CP INSULATIONS HANDICAP
(£3,550: 1m 3yd) (8)

1 (1) 3300 IAMUS 15 (D,F) T Barron 4-10-0 .... Victoria Appleby (7) 91
2 (6) 3510 GULLIVER 28 (D,F) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-7 .... J Fortune 87
3 (3) 0103 PRIDE OF PENDLE 16 (CD,F,G,S) M Wane 8-9-5 .... S Sanders 92
4 (2) 2030 WHITTLE ROCK 18 (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-0 .... A Culhane 96
5 (4) 2410 DISPOL GEM 7 (D,F,G) P Calver 4-9-0 .... K Darley 93
6 (7) 3638 SWEET SUPPOSIN 15 (V,D) C Dwyer 6-8-3 .... T E Durcan (5) [illegible]
7 (8) -004 CHAMPAGNE N DREAMS 8 (D,G) D Nicholls 5-7-10 .... Iona Wands (5) 80
8 (5) 0100 ORIOLE 49 (D,F,G,S) E Incisa 4-7-10 .... Kim Tinkler 78

3-1 Pride Of Pendle, 7-2 Gulliver, 4-1 Iamus, 5-1 Whittle Rock, 6-1 others.

5.05 MILLIGAN BAKERY FAMOUS FOR OUR FRESHNESS HANDICAP
(£5,147: 5f) (8)

1 (6) 5001 TADEO 7 (D,F,G,S) M Johnston 4-10-1 .... K M Chin (3) 98
2 (1) 0214 DOUBLE ACTION 18 (D,F,G) T Easterby 3-9-9 .... K Darley 95
3 (4) 1005 DARB ALOLA 15 (D,F) M Stoute 3-9-7 .... W Ryan 89
4 (2) 4950 MELIKSAH 7 (D,F) M Bell 3-9-5 .... G Faulkner (5) 97
5 (5) 1052 DAAWE 7 (D,V,F,G) Mrs V Aconley 6-9-1 .... M Deering [illegible]
6 (7) -000 VAX STAR 14 (B,D,G) J Spearing 3-9-0 .... S Sanders 97
7 (3) 0000 LAGO DI VARANO 7 (B,CD,F,G,S) R Whitaker 5-8-12 .... D McKeown 98
8 (8) 3424 LADY SHERIFF 15 (B,CD,F,G) M W Easterby 6-8-10 .... T Lucas 90

7-2 Double Action, 4-1 Daawe, 9-2 Tadeo, 5-1 Lady Sheriff, 6-1 Lago Di Varano, 8-1 Meliksah, 10-1 Darb Alola, 12-1 Vax Star

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 9 winners from 25 runners, 36.0%; L Cumani, 4 from 13, 30.8%; M Bell, 9 from 38, 23.7%; M Prescott, 6 from 30, 20.0%; D Loder, 3 from 16, 18.8%; M Stoute, 10 from 54, 18.5%

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 7 winners from 33 rides, 21.2%; W Ryan, 11 from 55, 20.0%; A McGlone, 5 from 28, 17.9%; K Darley, 29 from 203, 14.3%; J Carroll, 20 from 148, 13.5%; J Fortune, 13 from 127, 10.2%.

STRATFORD

THUNDERER

2.25 Moobakkr. 3.00 Henrys Port. 3.35 Glenfinn Princess. 4.10 Wamdha. 4.45 Blair Castle. 5.20 Vintage Taittinger.

GOING: GOOD SIS

2.25 SHUDE HILL MANCHESTER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,304: 2m 6f 110yd) (8 runners)

1 031/ CHICAGO'S BEST 14F (B,C,F,G) K Comerford 10-12-0 .... Mr R Thornton (3)
2 2UV ROYAL EXPRESSION 21F (F) F Jordan 5-11-10 .... A P McCoy
3 5-04 NADJATI 14 (B,F,G) D Gandolfo 8-11-7 .... R Dunwoody
4 -022 DESERT FORCE 14 (B,D,F,S) G Fierro 8-11-2 .... G Bradley
5 -254 ELITE GOVERNOR 17 (B,F,G) N Lampard 8-10-8 .... C Webb (5)
6 3U5- MOOBAKKR 81 (CD,F,G,S) K Morgan 6-10-6 .... R Johnson
7 43-2 VALIANT DASH 8F (F,G,S) J Goldie 11-10-4 .... S Taylor (5)
8 5-P2 MEL 8 R Buckler 7-10-0 .... B Powell

3-1 Desert Force, 4-1 Nadjati, 5-1 Royal Expression, 11-2 Moobakkr, 6-1 Valiant Dash, 8-1 Chicago's Best, Elite Governor, 10-1 Mel.

3.00 RICHARDSONS WATERFRONT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,318: 2m 110yd) (15)

1 3-11 HENRYS PORT 10 (D,F,G) M Meade 7-11-12 .... R Dunwoody
2 6P6/ BARBARY REEF 792 H Manners 9-10-12 .... S Curran
3 43-2 GLOBAL DANCER 27 L Wells 6-10-12 .... A Maguire
4 /5-5 SAILS LEGEND 10 (B) Z C Davison 6-10-12 .... A P McCoy
5 TARIAN 385F N Lampard 5-10-12 .... C Webb (5)
6 000- THE CHASE 58 J Jefferson 6-10-12 .... L Wyer
7 0/0- WELSH SPINNER 373 Mrs I McKie 6-10-12 .... W Marston
8 5-04 BEACON LANE 10 D O'Neill 4-10-9 .... V Slattery
9 CREST WING 54F T McGovern 4-10-9 .... M A Fitzgerald
10 U0- FOREIGN JUDGEMENT 22F W Musson 4-10-9 .... B Powell
11 GENEROUS PRESENT 47F J W Payne 4-10-9 .... C Llewellyn
12 4 JUMP THE LIGHTS 10 P Hodford 4-10-9 .... S Burrough
13 60-0 MAGGIE STRAIT 10 Mrs A King 5-10-7 .... Mr O McPhail (7)
14 /5-2 SKY BURST 49 Miss V Williams 7-10-7 .... R Johnson
15 5 MAGIC MELODY 12 J Spearing 4-10-4 .... Mr R Thornton (3)

11-4 Global Dancer, 100-30 Henrys Port, 5-1 Sky Burst, 8-1 Jump The Lights, 9-1 Sails Legend, 10-1 Beacon Lane, The Chase, 12-1 Magic Melody, 14-1 others.

3.35 MILLENUIM COPTHORNE HOTELS HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,522: 3m) (8)

1 434- MAGIC BLOOM 250 (D,F,G) J Jefferson 11-11-12 .... L Wyer
2 1P-3 GLENFINN PRINCESS 35 (BF,F,S) P Bowen 9-11-9 .... W Marston
3 42-S DISTANT MEMORY 50 (B,D,F,G) P Hobbs 8-11-2 .... R Dunwoody
4 4-22 PERUVIAN GALE 17 (D,F,G) Mrs S Smith 8-10-9 .... G Ryan (5)
5 2P-5 FIGHT TO WIN 17 (V,D,F) L Grassick 9-10-0 .... D McPhail (7)
6 -345 FATHER DOWLING 10 (V,G) G Balding 10-10-0 .... A Maguire
7 03-4 LEGAL ARTIST 10 (F,G) Miss C Johnsey 7-10-0 .... D Gallagher
8 P-6P MANKIND 17 (C,G) N Lampard 6-10-0 .... Mr L Baker (7)

2-1 Peruvian Gale, 100-30 Glenfinn Princess, 11-2 Magic Bloom, 10-1 others.

4.10 STARSITE LEISURE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,454: 2m 110yd) (4)

1 3-1P MR MORIARTY 14 (D,F,S) S Bowring 6-11-10 .... R Johnson
2 23-0 WAMDHA 17 (D,F,G,S) K Morgan 7-11-1 .... R Dunwoody
3 221- MUIZENBERG 77 (CD,G) E Owen Jun 10-10-10 .... D Gallagher
4 4/2- SCARABEN 22F (D,G,S) S Kettlewell 9-10-8 .... A Maguire

7-4 Muizenberg, 11-4 Scaraben, 3-1 Wamdha, 7-2 Mr Moriarty

4.45 RICHARDSONS OLDBURY NOVICES CHASE
(£2,814: 2m 1f 110yd) (7)

1 32-1 BLAIR CASTLE 42 (D,F) G Balding 6-11-5 .... A P McCoy
2 U2-0 COURSING GLEN 17 Miss M Rowland 9-10-12 .... Mr R Thornton (3)
3 5-0F FENWICK'S BROTHER 8 (D,F) Mrs S Smith 7-10-12 .... G F Ryan (5)
4 -233 HACKETTS CROSS 14 (D,F,G) P Eccles 9-10-12 .... A Maguire
5 1FU RELKOWI 883 (F) H Manners 10-10-12 .... S Curran
6 0-2F THIS IS MY LIFE 35 (BF,F) C Brooks 8-10-12 .... G Bradley
7 F LINO 35 A H Harvey 6-10-7 .... J A McCarthy

10-11 Blair Castle, 7-4 This Is My Life, 10-1 Hacketts Cross, 14-1 others.

5.20 FAIR DINKUM NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,388: 2m 3f) (12)

1 P6-0 KILCARNE BAY 10 (G) P Bowen 7-11-10 .... R Johnson
2 -141 RED LIGHT 12 (B,C,F,G) J Jenkins 5-11-8 .... A P McCoy
3 1-03 TURRILL HOUSE 21F (G) W Musson 5-11-6 .... B Powell
4 0-11 VINTAGE TAITTINGER 8F (F) J Goldie 5-11-6 .... S Taylor (5)
5 23-4 SUSELJA 42 J Jefferson 6-10-13 .... L Wyer
6 53-0 APOLLONO 42 R Lee 5-10-12 .... A Maguire
7 33/P SUPER SARENA 17 P Hobbs 8-10-10 .... C Llewellyn
8 3F2- DANE ROSE 115P (F,G) M Sheppard 11-10-7 .... R Dunwoody
9 /P-P CHILLY LAD 10 R J Price 6-10-7 .... J Culloty
10 00P/ FRED'S BOY 422 K Burke 7-10-4 .... B McGann (7)
11 24-P HEMERO 17 R Buckler 5-10-2 .... G Supple (5)
12 050/ BARGIN BOY 1181 P Ritchens 8-10-0 .... S Fox

11-4 Vintage Taittinger, 100-30 Red Light, 9-2 Turrill House, 9-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 5.35 Remaadi Sun. Lingfield Park: 6.45 Means Business. 7.45 Motcombs Club. 8.15 Native Rhythm. Market Rasen: 2.10 North Bear. Redcar: 7.05 Bali Dance. 7.35 Emily-Jayne, Gymcrak Gorjos. Stratford: 2.25 Elite Governor

REDCAR

THUNDERER

6.35 Opulent. 7.05 Lord Of Love. 7.35 Grovefair Lad. 8.05 Highfield Fizz. 8.35 Eleonora D'Arborea. 9.05 Northern Flash.

GOING. SOFT SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.35 CLEVELAND AMATEUR RIDERS LIMITED STAKES
SKY
(£2,163: 7f) (6 runners)

1 2120 BOWLERS BOY 8 (F,S) J J Quinn 4-11-3 .... S Swiers 1
2 0521 OPULENT 22 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-3 .... K R O'Ryan (5) 3
3 4601 PURPLE FLING 46 (D,F,G,S) L Chapman 6-11-3 .... Miss R Clark 4
4 4143 SUEZ TORNADO 18 (G,S) E Alston 4-11-3 .... Miss K Jones (5) 6
5 -131 DOMINANT AIR 9 (F,G) M Prescott 3-10-10 .... P Scott 2
6 6-04 SOLFEGIETTO 47 (G) M Bell 3-10-4 .... A Evans (5) 5

2-1 Opulent, 7-2 Dominant Air, 9-2 Purple Fling, 5-1 Suez Tornado, 6-1 Bowlers Boy, 8-1 Solfegietto

7.05 RYCROFT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE NURSERY HANDICAP
SKY
(2-Y-O: £3,834: 7f) (8)

1 312 INDIAN MISSILE 31 (F) J Dunlop 9-7 .... K Darley 8
2 0453 BOLERO KID 43 M W Easterby 9-1 .... T Lucas 5
3 3603 MAMORA BAY 14 M Tompkins 8-9 .... M Henry (3) 7
4 0543 LORD OF LOVE 14 T Easterby 8-6 .... T Williams 5
5 3533 BALI DANCE 17 (B) C Booth 8-2 .... P Fessey (3) 1
6 5015 HEAVENLY FALLS 18 (G) C Dwyer 8-0 .... N Varley 4
7 5466 MY BET 54 M W Easterby 7-12 .... N Kennedy 2
8 4544 MARSKE MACHINE 12 N Tinkler 7-10 .... Kim Tinkler 3

7-2 Indian Missile, 4-1 Mamora Bay, 9-2 Lord Of Love, 5-1 Heavenly Falls, 6-1 Bolero Kid, 7-1 Bali Dance, 8-1 Marske Machine, 10-1 My Bet.

7.35 RACING CHANNEL MAIDEN SELLING STAKES
SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,355: 1m 3f) (9)

1 3030 BAAHETH 22 S Williams 9-0 .... K Darley 1
2 5003 BALLYDINERO 15 (B) J H Wilson 9-0 .... J Weaver 5
3 4505 GROVEFAIR LAD 7 M Wane 9-0 .... S Sanders 4
4 -200 KINGDOM EMPEROR 40 M Camacho 9-0 .... J Fortune 6
5 -000 DANCE MELODY 16 G Oldroyd 8-9 .... K Hodgson 9
6 -000 EMILY-JAYNE 35 (B) Mrs M Reveley 8-9 .... A Culhane 3
7 -840 GYMCRAK GORJOS 10 (B) G Holmes 8-9 .... T Lucas 7
8 LADY MAGICIAN C Fairhurst 8-9 .... Jenny Benson (7) 2
9 5440 MAREMMA 5 E Incisa 8-9 .... Kim Tinkler 8

3-1 Kingdom Emperor, 7-2 Grovefair Lad, 4-1 Maremma, 5-1 Baaheth, 6-1 Emily-Jayne, 8-1 Gymcrak Gorjos, Ballydinero, 10-1 others.

8.05 GREEN HOWARDS TERRITORIAL HANDICAP
(£3,444: 2m 4yd) (7)

1 4500 DIRAB 7 (C,D,F,G,S) T Barron 4-10-0 .... K Darley 6
2 1125 RAMIKE 14 (F,S) M Johnston 3-9-12 .... J Weaver 3
3 1323 HERE COMES HERBIE 7 (BF,D,G,S) W Storey 5-9-11 .... S Sanders 1
4 2/0- ALARABY 480 (F) M Wane 5-9-9 .... J Carroll 7
5 1215 HASTA LA VISTA 11 (B,BF,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 7-9-3 .... G Parkin (3) 2
6 5-00 BATOUTOFTHEBLUE 73 W Haigh 4-9-1 .... A Culhane 5
7 3425 HIGHFIELD FIZZ 7 (C,F,S) C Fairhurst 5-8-4 .... P Fessey (3) 4

11-4 Here Comes Herbie, 3-1 Ramike, 4-1 Highfield Fizz, 9-2 Dirab, 5-1 Hasta La Vista, 12-1 Batoutoftheblue, 16-1 Alaraby.

8.35 NORTH YORKSHIRE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,173: 6f) (11)

1 0 BOLLINGER ROSE 60 J J O'Neill 8-11 .... J Carroll 8
2 23 D'MARTI 28 C Booth 8-11 .... K Hodgson 10
3 2056 ELEONORA D'ARBOREA 7 B Meehan 8-11 .... K Darley 1
4 2 FACSIMILE 21 J H Wilson 8-11 .... S Sanders 3
5 JOLI FILLE J Wainwright 8-11 .... T Williams 9
6 55 KETTLESING 22 (B) M W Easterby 8-11 .... T Lucas 6
7 LADYOFDISTINCTION J Wainwright 8-11 .... A Culhane 5
8 330 LLANASA 45 J Berry 8-11 .... P Fessey (3) 7
9 NAME OF LOVE D Loder 8-11 .... W Ryan 11
10 NISABA M Johnston 8-11 .... J Weaver 2
11 NUNTHORPE J Glover 8-11 .... J Fortune 4

11-4 Eleonora d'Arborea, 7-2 Name of Love, 4-1 Nisaba, 5-1 D'Marti, 6-1 Facsimile, 8-1 Llanasa, 10-1 Nunthorpe, 12-1 others.

9.05 RICHMOND HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,691: 1m 2f) (6)

1 2623 EPWORTH 19 (BF) J Glover 9-7 .... J Fortune 2
2 -331 ENLISTED 8 (D,F) M Prescott 9-5 .... S Sanders 1
3 0611 FANTAIL 31 (C,F,S) M Tompkins 9-5 .... M Henry (3) 5
4 632 NORTHERN FLASH 28 F Murphy 8-12 .... A Culhane 6
5 1100 ZORBA 15 (CD,G) J Hetherton 8-10 .... N Kennedy 3
6 34-6 LORD DISCORD 21 T Easterby 8-3 .... J Carroll 4

9-4 Enlisted, 5-2 Fantail, 4-1 Epworth, 5-1 Zorba, 6-1 Northern Flash, 8-1 Lord Discord

COURSE SPECIALISTS

REDCAR: Trainers: M Prescott, 11 winners from 30 runners, 36.7%; D Loder, 9 from 27, 33.3%; J Dunlop, 12 from 45, 26.7%; B Meehan, 3 from 13, 23.1%; M Tompkins, 3 from 15, 20.0%; S Williams, 5 from 28, 17.9%. Jockeys: K Darley, 52 winners from 261 rides, 19.9%; J Weaver, 20 from 126, 15.9%; W Ryan, 12 from 80, 15.0%; J Carroll, 17 from 138, 12.3%; J Fortune, 16 from 160, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

SOUTHWELL: Trainers: D Loder, 15 winners from 33 runners, 45.5%; M Johnston, 53 from 242, 21.9%; J Banks, 9 from 42, 21.4%; M Pipe, 3 from 14, 21.4%; M Prescott, 20 from 99, 20.2%; M Ryan, 22 from 118, 18.6%. Jockeys: D Holland, 23 winners from 118 rides, 19.5%; D Sweeney, 8 from 56, 14.3%; F Lynch, 19 from 144, 13.2%; Paul Roberts, 7 from 53, 13.2%; J Tate, 14 from 122, 11.5%; C Teague, 24 from 215, 11.2%.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

6.25 Mustique Dream. 6.55 Anyar Reem. 7.25 Portite Sophie. 7.55 Maiteamia. 8.25 Just A Stroll. 8.55 Stolen Kiss.

GOING. STANDARD SIS
DRAW. NO ADVANTAGE

6.25 CHAMPAGNE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,277: 7f) (8 runners)

1 500 CATCH THE RAINBOW 32 [illegible] 8-11 .... G [illegible] 5
2 KUSTOM KIT KATE S Bowring 8-11 .... S Webster 1
3 5 MISS BANANAS 16 [illegible] 8-11 .... T G McLaughlin [illegible]
4 2 MUSTIQUE DREAM 9 R Charlton 8-11 .... T Sprake 7
5 0 PARLEZ MOI D'AMOUR 40 C Thornton 8-11 .... E Johnson 6
6 PERECAPA B Palling 8-11 .... D Sweeney (5) 3
7 0 RUBY BEAR 14 W M Brisbourne 8-11 .... R Mullen (5) 8
8 0 SUNLEY SEEKER 12 M Channon 8-11 .... G Carter 2

1-2 Mustique Dream, 100-30 Sunley Seeker, 12-1 Perecapa, 14-1 others.

6.55 G B WILLBOND IDEAL STANDARD SELLING STAKES
(£1,985: 1m 4f) (9)

1 2/21 ANYAR REEM 27 (B,S) D Shaw 6-10-0 .... J Fanning 4
2 0312 PRIVATE FIXTURE 19 (BF,C,G) D Marks 5-10-0 .... D Sweeney (5) 3
3 NAGOBELIA 69J J Pearce 9-9-9 .... C Teague (3) 8
4 RED TEL 45J M Pipe 5-9-9 .... Martin Dwyer (3) 7
5 /500 RED WHIRLWIND 43 R Simpson 7-9-9 .... M Gallagher 2
6 020/ ROYAL SQUARE 35J (F) N Littmoden 11-9-9 .... T G McLaughlin 6
7 -003 TOVARICH 5 (V,D,F) Ron Thompson 6-9-9 .... C Lowther (5) 5
8 0000 TOCCO JEWEL 5 (S) M Ryan 7-9-4 .... D R McCabe 1
9 3221 BLUEBELL MISS 10 (G,S) M Ryan 3-8-11 .... G Carter 9

2-1 Bluebell Miss, 11-4 Private Fixture, Anyar Reem, 7-1 Red Tel, 8-1 others.

7.25 PARK HOSPITAL FILLIES HANDICAP
(£2,277: 1m 4f) (11)

1 0621 CLASSIC BALLET 8 (D,F) R Guest 4-9-10 .... C Lowther (5) 7
2 5201 MIRROR FOUR SPORT 26 (C) S Bowring 3-9-9 .... F Boyle (7) 8
3 00-0 SHIRLATY 45 C Thornton 4-9-5 .... Dean McKeown 6
4 0601 MYSTIC STRAND 15 (D) W G M Turner 4-9-4 .... D Sweeney (5) 5
5 0004 PERLETHORPE 12 M Bell 3-9-2 .... R Mullen (5) 2
6 3065 LADY SILK 10 (C,F,S) Miss J Craze 6-9-0 .... S Webster 3
7 4021 PORTITE SOPHIE 5 (C) M Britton 6-8-12 (6ex) .... D Mernagh (7) 10
8 0420 ILLEGALLY YOURS 12 L M-Hall 4-8-10 .... D O'Donohoe (3) 9
9 0-00 CHARCOL 22 J Banks 4-8-4 .... G Carter 11
10 6000 PALACEGATE JO 166 (CD,G,S) D Chapman 6-7-11 .... D Wright 4
11 100- COMTEC'S LEGEND 441 (C,D,F,G) J Pearce 7-7-11 .... G Bardwell 1

3-1 Mirror Four Sport, 7-2 Portite Sophie, 4-1 Classic Ballet, 6-1 others.

7.55 STANDEN HOMES HOLDINGS HANDICAP
(£5,017: 7f) (16)

1 -000 MASTER BOOTS 16 (D,S) D Loder 4-10-0 .... C Lowther (5) 10
2 1350 ROSSI MAGIC 12 (BF,F) L Montague Hall 5-9-6 .... D O'Donohoe (3) 7
3 4560 FIRST MAITE 5 (B,C,G,S) S Bowring 4-9-3 .... S Webster 8
4 -113 FORCING BID 4 (C) M Prescott 3-9-12 .... Dean McKeown 16
5 1210 PERICLES 14 (D,S) M Johnston 3-8-13 .... K M Chin (3) 15
6 0300 PRIMA SILK 4 (CD,F,G) M Ryan 6-8-12 .... G Carter 2
7 0042 THE WYANDOTTE INN 29 (D) Mrs N Macauley 3-8-12 .... Amanda Sanders (5) 13
8 2112 JOHNNIE THE JOKER 15 (B,CD,G) J Leigh 6-8-11 .... D Sweeney (5) 11
9 2030 MAITEAMIA 16 (B,C,S,S) S Bowring 4-8-10 .... C Teague (3) 3
10 3005 ALPINE HIDEAWAY 4 (CD,F) B Hanbury 4-8-8 .... J Stack 6
11 0010 DESERT INVADER 18 (CD,S) D Chapman 6-8-8 .... T Sprake 4
12 2021 INTIAASH 15 (F,S) D Haydn Jones 5-8-7 .... Martin Dwyer (3) 9
13 2013 BOLD ARISTOCRAT 16 (C) R Hollinshead 6-8-7 .... F Lynch 12
14 0005 OBERON'S DART 23 (D) P Mann 4-8-7 .... D Holland 5
15 0050 NOR-DO-I 19 (C) J Eustace 3-8-6 .... J Tate 1
16 0054 THEATRE MAGIC 15 (CD) D Shaw 4-8-6 .... J Fanning 14

[illegible] 6-1 The Wyandotte Inn, 10-1 Intiaash, 8-1 Johnnie The Joker, Alpine Hideaway, 10-1 Master Boots, 12-1 Forcing Bid, 14-1 others.

8.25 CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FINANCE CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,277: 6f) (8)

1 000 PERCY 14 J Bottomley 9-3 .... N Carlisle 4
2 1232 ALWAYS LUCKY 8 (BF,C) J Berry 8-12 .... P Roberts (5) 5
3 0 CATFOOT LANE 22 W G M Turner 8-9 .... D Sweeney (5) 3
4 LAPIMI Mrs N Macauley 8-9 .... S Webster 8
5 2 JUST A STROLL 29 J S Moore 8-7 .... W J O Connor 2
6 005 VOGUE IMPERIAL 5 P Haslam 8-7 .... C Lowther (5) 1
7 4523 PERSIAN FORTUNE 11 (C) W G M Turner 8-6 .... R Mullen (5) 7
8 665 TALAHEART 29 (B) C Allen 8-2 .... Martin Dwyer (3) 6

5-4 Always Lucky, 3-1 Persian Fortune, 5-1 Lapimi, 7-1 Just A Stroll, 12-1 Percy, 16-1 Talaheart, 33-1 Catfoot Lane, Vogue Imperial

8.55 BIN HANDICAP
(£3,677: 5f) (11)

1 2506 BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 27 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Shaw 7-9-13 .... C Teague (3) 7
2 0650 MASTER OF PASSION 10 (D,F,G,S) J Eustace 8-9-9 .... J Tate 8
3 3302 NAPIER STAR 5 (V,C,D) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-6 .... S Webster 5
4 2253 STOLEN KISS 11 (B,D,F,S) M W Easterby 5-9-6 .... D Holland 6
5 1101 PALACEGATE JACK 8 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Berry 6-9-5 .... T E Durcan (5) 1
6 1250 SHADOW JURY 21 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Chapman 7-9-1 .... L Charnock 9
7 0102 AMY LEIGH 15 (B,CD) J H Wilson 4-8-13 .... Angela Hartley (7) 4
8 2111 DISTINCTIVE DREAM 5 (B,F,G) K Ivory 3-8-12 (7ex) .... Martin Dwyer (3) 3
9 3013 SEA YA MAITE 5 (C) S Bowring 3-8-9 .... Dale Gibson 2
10 5005 PERFECT BRAVE 22 (F) J Balding 6-8-7 .... J Edmunds 11
11 2036 RICH GLOW 8 (D,F,G,S) N Bycroft 6-8-6 .... S Drowne 10

7-2 Distinctive Dream, 9-2 Sea Ya Maite, 5-1 Palacegate Jack, 7-1 Broadstairs Beauty, 8-1 Stolen Kiss, 10-1 Napier Star, Amy Leigh, 12-1 others

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

6.15 Sam Rockett. 6.45 Verdant Express. 7.15 Safey Ana. 7.45 Aurelian. 8.15 Signs And Wonders. 8.45 Krosno.

GOING: FIRM (TURF COURSE); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER)
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

6.15 ARUNDEL APPRENTICES MAIDEN HANDICAP
SKY
(All-weather: £2,305: 1m 2f) (10 runners)

1 400- DRAGON'S BACK 302 D D Bren 4-10-0 .... Daniel Burchell (10) 8
2 0300 KEEN COMPANION 30 T Naughton 4-9-10 .... Rachael Moody (8) 5
3 0006 MOGUL 35 H Graham 3-9-1 .... A Nicholls (7) 1
4 5406 MICHAEL VENTURE 18 S Woods 3-9-1 .... P Doe 2
5 3300 WINDBORN 8 C Allen 3-8-1 .... D McGaffin 9
6 3320 SAM ROCKETT 32 (BF) Gay Kelleway 4-8-1 .... A McCarthy (3) 7
7 0045 BAPSFORD 15 G L Moore 3-8-1 .... D Williams (5) 3
8 0000 EXECUTIVE OFFICER 15 (B) R Flower 4-7-13 .... J Fowle (3) 4
9 0005 PADDY HURRY 28 N Callaghan 3-7-10 .... R Brisland (5) 10
10 0600 GRACIOUS IMP 7 J Jenkins 4-7-10 .... S Carson (3) 5

11-4 Sam Rockett, 4-1 Windborn, Mogul, 11-2 Bapsford, 7-1 Keen Companion, 10-1 Dragon's Back, 12-1 Michael Venture, Executive Officer, 14-1 others.

6.45 DIGICON GEOPHYSICAL SELLING STAKES
SKY
(2-Y-O: £1,985: 5f) (8)

1 042 MEANS BUSINESS 9 (B) B Meehan 8-11 .... Dane O'Neill 5
2 4255 NEWHARGEN 23 (B) P Evans 8-11 .... M Fenton 6
3 0 OK JOHN 17 J Akehurst 8-11 .... A Clark 3
4 3345 GALLIRAM 15 M Blanshard 8-6 .... J Quinn 4
5 MISS LADY LYDIA J Poulton 8-6 .... A Morris 2
6 0 POLLY IN PARIS 68 M Meade 8-6 .... F Norton 1
7 02 VERDANT EXPRESS 24 W G M Turner 8-6 .... G Milligan (5) 7
8 WAYTOGOMO Miss B Sanders 8-6 .... A Whelan (3) 8

9-4 Means Business, 7-2 Verdant Express, 5-1 Newhargen, 6-1 Ok John, Galliram, 8-1 Polly In Paris, 12-1 Miss Lady Lydia, Waytogomo

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 3 winners from 39 runners, 23.1%; M Prescott, 25 from 108, 23.1%; Lord Huntingdon, 48 from 236, 20.3%; B Hanbury, 8 from 44, 18.2%; P Chapple-Hyam, 5 from 28, 17.9%; Miss G Kelleway, 31 from 181, 17.1%.

JOCKEYS: K Fallon, 7 winners from 34 rides, 20.6%; R Cochrane, 66 from 378, 17.5%; Aimee Cook, 4 from 24, 16.7%; J Reid, 22 from 157, 14.0%; M Roberts, 16 from 118, 13.6%; A Clark, 56 from 463, 12.1%.

7.15 BAILEYS ORIGINAL IRISH CREAM HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,646: 7f 140yd) (9)

1 0300 APOLLO RED 11 (C,F,S) G L Moore 8-10-0 .... Candy Morris 9
2 00-4 DAYLIGHT DREAMS 82 (G) C Cyzer 3-9-11 .... A Morris 8
3 0205 BANZHAF 50 (D) G L Moore 4-9-10 .... A Clark 3
4 0010 SAFEY ANA 7 (D,F,G) B Hanbury 6-9-8 .... J Reid 5
5 0000 SCISSOR RIDGE 8 (F) J Bridger 5-9-2 .... J Quinn 2
6 4-05 KING PARROT 8 (C,D,F) Lord Huntingdon 9-8-8 .... Aimee Cook (5) 1
7 4505 FORT KNOX 11 (B,CD,F,G) R Flower 6-8-7 .... Dane O'Neill 6
8 0520 JOLLY JACKSON 15 R Akehurst 3-8-6 .... D Harrison 4
9 0000 MAY QUEEN MEGAN 9 (C,F) Mrs A King 4-8-3 .... M Roberts 7

3-1 Banzhaf, 7-2 Jolly Jackson, 11-2 King Parrot, 13-2 Daylight Dreams, Safey Ana, Fort Knox, 8-1 Apollo Red, 10-1 others

7.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP
SKY
(3-Y-O: £3,096: 2m) (7)

1 -002 TROOPER 12 R Akehurst 9-7 .... D Harrison 5
2 0333 PADAUK 22 M Haynes 9-4 .... R Ffrench (3) 6
3 0114 AURELIAN 33 (F) M Bell 9-1 .... M Fenton 2
4 -251 ZAFARELLI 24 (S) J Jenkins 9-0 .... J Reid 4
5 00-0 FROST KING 15 Miss B Sanders 8-9 .... Dane O'Neill 7
6 -004 MOTCOMBS CLUB 24 (B) N Callaghan 8-0 .... J Quinn 3
7 0150 SIPOWITZ 24 C Cyzer 7-12 .... A Whelan (3) 1

11-8 Zafarelli, 11-2 Trooper, Aurelian, Motcombs Club, 13-2 Padauk, 8-1 Sipowitz, 14-1 Frost King

8.15 ASHURST LIMITED STAKES
(All-weather: £2,277: 7f) (5)

1 6000 INVOCATION 19 (CD,F) G L Moore 10-9-8 .... A Clark 5
2 0321 RADAR O REILLY 11 (D,F) R Williams 3-8-12 .... R Cochrane 1
3 500 CHURCHILL'S SHADOW 16 B Pearce 3-8-9 .... DOUBTFUL 3
4 2-36 NATIVE RHYTHM 21 (B) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-6 .... MC J Reid 2
5 3654 SIGNS AND WONDERS 2 (BF) C Cyzer 3-8-6 .... K Fallon 4

15-8 Radar O Reilly, Native Rhythm, 9-4 Signs And Wonders, 7-1 Invocation

8.45 SEVENOAKS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,018: 1m 3f 106yd) (7)

1 2461 KROSNO 15 (CD,F) S C Williams 9-7 .... D Williams (7) 1
2 645 ARLETTY 19 H Cecil 9-4 .... K Fallon 3
3 000- DRIFT 367 M Prescott 9-3 .... C Nutter 7
4 5523 SWING WEST 15 P Cole 9-2 .... J Reid 6
5 000 PUTERI WENTWORTH 44 Gay Kelleway 9-1 .... R Cochrane 5
6 052 SIFWA 11 D O Bren 8-4 .... Dane O'Neill 4
7 0062 BEWITCHING LADY 15 D Arbuthnot 7-13 .... R Ffrench (3) 2

3-4 Krosno, 5-2 Arletty, 4-1 Bewitching Lady, 11-2 Swing West, 8-1 Sifwa, 10-1 Drift, 16-1 Puteri Wentworth

MARKET RASEN

THUNDERER

2.10 Five Flags. 2.40 Thats The Life. 3.15 Willy Star. 3.45 Maggots Green. 4.20 Its Not My Fault. 4.55 Full Throttle.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.10 WEIGHTLIFTER HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,797: 2m 5f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 -522 FIVE FLAGS 10 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 9-12-0 .... R Wilkinson
2 5-P4 MERRY PANTO 14 (F,G) C Brooks 8-11-11 .... M Berry
3 3-46 NORTH BEAR 14 (B) G McCourt 5-11-6 .... D Ford
4 1-05 NIGHT TIME 15F (F,G) A Hobbs 5-10-13 .... G Shenkin (3)
5 F00- BOXING MATCH 59 (D,F,G,S) J Bradley 10-10-9 .... X Aizpuru
6 14-0 FLINTLOCK 45 (D,F) H Alexander 7-10-8 .... R McGrath
7 446- FINE TUNE 110 A P Jones 7-10-0 .... D Carey (7)
8 P5P- ARRANGE A GAME 61 (F) G Woodward 10-10-0 .... P Henley
9 2PP FAST FREEZE 35 (F,G,S) Mrs J Hawkins 11-10-0 .... Michael Brennan
10 P0-0 GOOD VENTURE 42 S Bell 6-10-0 .... D Parker

5-2 Five Flags, 3-1 Merry Panto, 5-1 Night Time, 6-1 Flintlock, 7-1 others

2.40 SCUNTHORPE SLAG HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,987: 2m 2f) (6)

1 22-P MILL O'THE RAGS 14 (D,F) Mrs D Haine 8-11-10 .... P Hosley
2 7152 BRAMBLEBERRY 8 (D,G,S) Mrs S Smith 8-11-2 .... R Guest
3 30-4 CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 27 (CD,F,G,S) D McCain 11-10-13 .... T Jenks
4 F-42 EVENING RAIN 27 (D,F) P Hodges 11-10-10 .... T Dascombe (3)
5 322- THATS THE LIFE 56 (D,F,G,S) T George 12-10-6 .... N Williamson
6 55-8 RUPPLES 43 (CD,F,G) M Chapman 10-10-0 .... W Worthington

9-4 Thats The Life, 11-4 Evening Rain, 100-30 Mill O The Rags, 5-1 Brambleberry, 8-1 Crafty Chaplain, 16-1 Rupples.

3.15 CIU SOCIAL CLUBS CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,530: 2m 1f 110yd) (12)

1 BERNARD SEVEN 7F M Dods 5-11-2 .... R Supple
2 251- FLUIDITY 378 (D,F) I Williams 9-11-2 .... N Williamson
3 -221 WILLY STAR 17 (D,G,S) Mrs S Smith 7-11-2 .... R Guest
4 606- BEST FRIEND 137 J Curtis 5-10-11 .... A Dobbin
5 0PP- ERNEST ARAGORN 117 (V) Mrs S Lamyman 8-10-10 .... A Thornton
6 -150 IRIE MON 14 (CD,F) M Bielby 5-10-10 .... P Carberry
7 /0-P TOUCH SILVER 29 (D,S) H Manners 7-10-10 .... A Dowling (7)
8 RETURN TO BRIGHTON 26F J Bradley 5-10-8 .... B Fenton
9 F30- COLWAY PRINCE 304 (F,G,S) A P Jones 9-10-7 .... G Upton
10 P56- WORDSMITH 80 (BF,D,G,S) J L Harris 7-10-7 .... A S Smith
11 MUSTARD 36F A Mulholland 4-10-6 .... D Bentley
12 P56- BRITANNIA MILLS 108 (D,F) M Chapman 6-10-2 .... W Worthington

11-8 Willy Star, 6-1 Fluidity, Wordsmith, 7-1 Irie Mon, 8-1 Bernard Seven, 10-1 Return To Brighton, Colway Prince, 16-1 others

3.45 WEIGHTLIFTER HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,764: 2m 4f) (5)

1 21-2 MINE'S AN ACE 45 (D,F,G,S) Miss V Williams 10-11-13 .... R Greene
2 5-1F MAGGOTS GREEN 14 (BF,D,F,G,S) J Bradley 10-11-9 .... B Fenton
3 15-1 WISE ADVICE 14 (D,F) M Hammond 7-11-7 .... R Garritty
4 33C- FLYING ZIAD 343 (D,F,G,S) H Manners 14-10-0 .... A Dowling (7)
5 P0-3 MISCHIEVOUS GIRL 43 (F) R Tate 9-10-0 .... Mrs F Needham

11-8 Wise Advice, 2-1 Mine's An Ace, 7-2 Maggots Green, 10-1 Mischievous Girl, 14-1 Flying Ziad

4.20 FRED LIESACK NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,934: 3m 1f) (9)

1 2-56 ZINGIBAR 14 (F,G,S) J Bradley 5-11-12 .... B Fenton
2 1FP- WIXOE WONDER 65 (B,G) M Bradstock 7-11-11 .... P Holley
3 -130 IT'S NOT MY FAULT 10 (C,F,G,S) R Frost 9-11-4 .... J Frost
4 P-06 BLAZE OF OAK 14 J Bradley 6-11-0 .... N Williamson
5 0P-4 LITTLE TINCTURE 14 (F) Mrs T McInnes Skinner 7-10-13 .... G Upton
6 42-4 MOVE MAN 49 (BF) J Turner 5-10-11 .... R Supple
7 33-3 PROFESSOR PAGE 49 T Thomson Jones 7-10-11 .... A Thornton
8 3-F3 TELMAR SYSTEMS 8 (F,G) J Cullinan 8-10-3 .... T J Murphy
9 6-32 MIGHTY MERC 29 Mrs E Bread 9-10-3 .... A Dobbin

11-6 Professor Page, 4-1 Move Man, 11-2 Wixoe Wonder, 8-1 Zingibar, 10-1 It's Not My Fault, Little Tincture, 16-1 Blaze Of Oak, Telmar Systems, Mighty Merc.

4.55 BARBARA SINGLETON 40TH BIRTHDAY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,882: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

1 11-1 JAMAICAN FLIGHT 43 (CD,F,G) Mrs S Lamyman 4-12-1 .... N Williamson
2 4- EARLY PEACE 16F M Dods 5-11-0 .... R Supple
3 43-0 OLD BOMBAY 43 T Barron 5-11-0 .... A Thornton
4 PAXTONS TOWER N Chance 6-11-0 .... T J Murphy
5 0F- FULL THROTTLE 22F M Tompkins 4-10-11 .... R Guest
6 3-0 MASTER BRADAN 35 A Mulholland 4-10-11 .... D Bentley
7 SIDNEY STREET M Sowersby 4-10-11 .... D Parker (3)
8 04-0 TULLOW LADY 49 D Shaw 6-10-9 .... R Massey (3)
9 52-2 DOWN THE YARD 42 M Chapman 4-10-6 .... W Worthington

11-6 Jamaican Flight, 9-2 Early Peace, Down The Yard, 7-1 Paxtons Tower, 8-1 Old Bombay, Full Throttle, 16-1 Tullow Lady, 25-1 others

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Social Charter
2.35 Cape Cross
3.05 Forest Treasure
3.50 Predappio
4.30 **AMRAK AJEEB** (nap)
5.00 Lonely Leader
5.35 Dance So Suite

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Mutawwaj. 3.50 **SINGSPIEL** (nap). 5.35 Oops Pettie.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING. GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.00 EBF GRANVILLE MAIDEN STAKES
BBC1
(2-Y-O: £6,308: 6f) (8 runners)

101 (7) DEEP SPACE [illegible] 8-11 .... K Fallon –
102 (6) DOWER HOUSE (Lord H de Walden) W Jarvis 8-11 .... Pat Eddery –
103 (2) IISHISHWAY [illegible] B Meehan 8-11 .... M Tebbutt –
104 (5) LA-FAAH (H al-Maktoum) B Hills 8-11 .... R Hills –
105 (3) MUTAWWAJ (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-11 .... L Dettori –
106 (4) NAJJAR (H al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-11 .... M J Kinane –
107 (1) PADDY MCGOON (J Smith) D Elsworth 8-11 .... R Cochrane –
108 (8) SOCIAL CHARTER (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 .... J Reid –

BETTING: 7-4 Social Charter, 5-1 Mutawwaj, 7-1 Dower House, 8-1 Deep Space, [illegible]

1996: REVOQUE 8-11 J Reid (5-2) P Chapple-Hyam 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOWER HOUSE (foaled Feb 19) first foal, dam, half-sister to high-class miler Grand Lodge, 1m 1f winner. IISHISHWAY (May 17, [illegible]) [illegible] foal, dam [illegible]. LA-FAAH (May 10) half-brother to [illegible] winner, dam [illegible] dual 5f winner. MUTAWWAJ (Mar 25) half-brother to [illegible] 6f-1m winner [illegible]. NAJJAR (Apr 7, [illegible]) [illegible]. SOCIAL CHARTER (Feb 17) [illegible] North America at up to 7f.
No selection

2.35 SHAH JAHAN DIAMOND CONDITIONS STAKES
BBC1
(Ladies: £7,133: 1m rnd) (9 runners)

201 (5) 3046004 ROYAL ACCLAIM 8 (V,D,F,S) [illegible] 12-9-13 .... [illegible] –
202 (3) 0304000 SQUARED AWAY 23 (B,D,F) [illegible] 5-9-10 .... [illegible] 57
203 (1) 0005 0 VAPORIZE 9 [illegible] 5-9-10 .... [illegible] –
204 (8) 4-26264 BLESSED SPIRIT 7 (D,F) [illegible] 4-9-8 .... [illegible] (3) 84
205 (2) 0-21216 MARJAANA 23 (D,F,G) [illegible] P Walwyn 4-9-8 .... [illegible] 74
206 (4) 4432231 YABINT EL SULTAN 15 (D,F) [illegible] .... Sarah Bosley 73
207 (6) 41-30 CAPE CROSS 84 (D,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-9-5 .... Lydia Pearce [illegible]
208 (7) 0-50 COLD LAZARUS 22 [illegible] 3-9-5 .... [illegible] (3) 51
209 (9) 1-0230 YORKSHIRE 20 (D,S) (Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole [illegible] .... [illegible] 57

BETTING: 4-6 Cape Cross, 5-1 Yorkshire, 6-1 Yabint El Sultan, 16-1 Blessed Spirit, 20-1 Marjaana, 25-1 others.

1996: HAMMERSTEIN 3-9-11 [illegible] (6-1) M Stoute 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

SQUARED AWAY 4l 2nd of 10 to [illegible] in ladies handicap at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good to soft) with MARJAANA (36lb better off) about 5¼l 6th. BLESSED SPIRIT about 1¼l 4th of 11 to Jibereen in handicap at Newmarket (1m, good). MARJAANA beat [illegible] 2l in 6-runner amateur limited stakes at [illegible] (7f, good to firm). YABINT EL SULTAN beat [illegible] in 5-runner maiden at Chester (7f 122yd, good to firm). CAPE CROSS about 5l 3rd of 8 to Desert Story in the Group III Craven Stakes at Newmarket (1m, good to firm).
Selection: CAPE CROSS

3.05 PRINCESS MARGARET STAKES
BBC1
(Group III: 2-Y-O fillies: £23,380: 6f) (7 runners)

301 (1) 1432 ANOTHER FANTASY 50 (G) (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 8-9 .... Dane O'Neill 65
302 (6) 1 EMBASSY 16 (D,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 8-9 .... Pat Eddery 97
303 (4) 3126410 FILEY BRIGG 26 (F,S) [illegible] W Kemp 8-9 .... K Fallon 89
304 (7) 21 FILFILAH 43 (D,G) (H al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-9 .... R Hills 90
305 (2) 1253 FOREST TREASURE 18 (S) (Mrs J Magnier) J Berry 8-9 .... G Carter [illegible]
306 (5) 1 MISS ZAFONIC 12 (D,F) [illegible] R Hannon 8-9 .... L Dettori 82
307 (3) 101 SOCKET SET 14 (F) (J Fretwell) B McMahon 8-9 .... M Roberts 93

BETTING: 7-4 Embassy, 3-1 Miss Zafonic, 5-1 Forest Treasure, 13-2 Another Fantasy, 7-1 Filfilah, 8-1 others.

1996: SEEBE 8-9 [illegible] (6-1) I Balding 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANOTHER FANTASY 1½l 2nd of 8 to Dance Trick in listed race at Epsom (6f, good). EMBASSY beat Expect To Shine 1¼l in 13-runner maiden at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). FILEY BRIGG beat FOREST TREASURE (4lb better off) ¾l in 10-runner conditions race at Beverley (5f, good to firm). FILFILAH beat Jilted 1½l in 9-runner maiden at Goodwood (6f, good). MISS ZAFONIC beat Grido 3l in 21-runner maiden at Windsor (6f, good to firm). SOCKET SET beat Maystorm ¾l in 7-runner handicap at York (5f, good to firm).
Selection: MISS ZAFONIC

3.50 KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH DIAMOND STAKES
BBC1
(Group I: £294,600: 1m 4f) (8 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE FACING PAGE

4.30 BARNEY BARNATO DIAMOND RATED HANDICAP
(£12,312: 1m 2f) (11 runners)

501 (6) -425030 AMRAK AJEEB 10 (C,D,F,G,S) (A Merza) B Hanbury 5-9-7 .... M Rimmer 96
502 (5) 211-300 WILCUMA 35 (D,F,G,S) (T Warner) P Makin 6-9-6 .... M Roberts 94
503 (1) 4040-12 MARALINGA 15 (D,F,G) (D & Mrs J Oliver) Lady Herries 5-9-3 .... Paul Eddery [illegible]
504 (10) 1045304 RUSSIAN MUSIC 14 (F) (Seventh Heaven Prtns) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-2 .... K Fallon 96
505 (11) 4141/23 NIGHT WATCH 21 (F,G) (The Queen) I Balding 4-8-11 .... L Dettori 96
506 (2) 1110-10 PRESENT ARMS 15 (BF,D,F,G) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 4-8-11 .... G Stevens 94
507 (7) /03-500 WAHIBA SANDS 14 (F) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 4-8-11 .... M J Kinane 93
508 (4) 0-53253 GAME PLOY 14 (D,F,G) [illegible] D Haydn Jones 5-8-11 .... R Cochrane 97
509 (3) 4102000 KUALA LIPIS 14 (F) (H R H Sultan Ahmad Shah) P Cole 4-8-10 .... Pat Eddery 97
510 (8) 2-43413 PREMIER BAY 15 (B,D,S) (Prime Castle) P Harris 3-8-8 .... J Reid 94
511 (9) 32-0063 MUKADDAR 21 (G) (H al-Maktoum) C Benstead 3-8-5 .... R Hills 96

BETTING: 9-2 Wahiba Sands, 5-1 Night Watch, 11-2 Game Ploy, 6-1 Maralinga, 7-1 Kuala Lipis, Present Arms, 10-1 Mukaddar, 12-1 Amrak Ajeeb, 14-1 Premier Bay, Russian Music, Wilcuma

1996: BEHAVIOUR 4-9-7 J Reid (10-1) Mrs J Cecil 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMRAK AJEEB 6l 3rd of 5 to Lord Of Men in conditions race at Doncaster (1m, good to soft). MARALINGA 2l 2nd of 6 to Bright Water in conditions race at Chester (1m 2f 75yd, good to firm). RUSSIAN MUSIC about 3l 4th of 8 to Cadeaux Tryst in listed handicap at Lingfield (7f 140yd, good to firm). PRESENT ARMS beat Rockforce 1¼l in 9-runner handicap at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to soft). GAME PLOY about ¾l 3rd of 21 to Pasternak in the Magnet Cup Handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good to firm) with WAHIBA SANDS (3lb better off) 4l 7th and KUALA LIPIS (4lb better off) 2¾l 10th. PREMIER BAY beat Union Town 1¼l in 6-runner handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good to soft).
Selection: WAHIBA SANDS

5.00 CROCKER BULTEEL HANDICAP
(£13,810: 1m str) (11 runners)

601 (1) -622060 LONELY LEADER 10 (F) (S Schall) R Hannon 4-10-0 .... L Dettori 93
602 (9) 20-1055 HAL'S PAL 21 (D) (W Said) D Loder 4-9-9 .... Pat Eddery 95
603 (7) 0106-02 AUNTY JANE 21 (G) (P Locke) J Dunlop 4-9-2 .... J Reid 95
604 (5) 045-003 HI NOD 10 (F,G,S) (B Haidon) M Camacho 7-9-6 .... L Charnock 89
605 (6) 03-0000 KAYVEE 21 (CD,F,G,S) (J Richmond-Watson) Mrs A Perrett 8-9-2 .... A Clark [illegible]
606 (8) 1-34000 SAIFAN 10 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs L Brook) D Morris 8-8-11 .... N Day 92
607 (10) 0620026 TERTIUM 14 (D,F) (J Barton) M Wane 5-8-6 .... A Whelan (3) 94
608 (4) 11-0623 KOATHARY 21 (D,F,S) (E Gadsden & Mrs M Fairbairn) L Cottrell 6-8-6 .... M Roberts 89
609 (2) 6000-40 ALHAWA 82 (D,F,G) (Money Men) R Akehurst 4-8-3 .... R Hills 89
610 (11) 0621222 THERHEA 15 (D,G,S) (R Gadge, C Lewis & M Calvert) B Millman 4-8-2 .... B Doyle 97
611 (3) -222053 PRESENT CHANCE 14 (I Garcia) B McMahon 3-7-10 .... J Quinn 94

BETTING: 7-2 Hal's Pal, 5-1 Aunty Jane, 6-1 Therhea, Koathary, 7-1 Alhawa, 8-1 Tertium, 10-1 others.

1996: YEAST 4-10-0 R Cochrane (7-2) W Haggas 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

LONELY LEADER ¾l 2nd of 16 to Autumn Cover in handicap at Kempton (1m, good) with ALHAWA (2lb better off) 2¾l 15th. HAL'S PAL 1¼l 5th of 32 to Red Robbo in Royal Hunt Cup Handicap over course and distance (good to firm) with LONELY LEADER (1lb better off) 1¾l 6th, TERTIUM (2lb better off) 5¾l 13th, KAYVEE (9lb better off) 1l 15th and SAIFAN (4lb better off) 26l 32nd. AUNTY JANE 1¾l 2nd of 10 to Clan Ben in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to soft) with HAL'S PAL (1lb better off) about ¾l 5th and KAYVEE (6lb better off) 6¾l 8th. TERTIUM 3½l 2nd of 16 to Jo Mell in handicap at Newcastle (7f, heavy). THERHEA 1½l 2nd of 14 to Jo Mell in handicap at York (1m, good). PRESENT CHANCE about 1½l 3rd of 16 to Crackatack in handicap at York (7f, good to firm) with TERTIUM (1lb better off) about 3¼l 6th.
Selection: HAL'S PAL

5.35 VENETIA DIAMOND HANDICAP
(£7,100: 1m 4f) (12 runners)

1 (11) -336061 ROKEBY BOWL 10 (G) (P Mellon) I Balding 5-10-0 .... L Dettori 97
2 (1) 32-31 KING KATO 12 (D,F) (Mrs J Ellis) Mrs P Ferrett 4-9-12 .... J Reid 94
3 (8) 3436-04 DANCE SO SUITE 12 (D,F,G,S) (J Gittins) P Cole 5-9-11 .... M J Kinane 94
4 (4) 11-0250 TYKEYVOR 21 (CD,F) (Seymour Pearce Ltd) Lady Herries 7-9-10 .... G Stevens 98
5 (2) 15512-0 OOPS PETTIE 38 (F) (Mrs D MacRae) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-15 .... Pat Eddery 97
6 (5) 2200023 REMAADI SUN 7 (B,D,F) (T Barker) M Usher 5-9-5 .... R Street 98
7 (6) 016-220 SHARP CONSUL 14 (S) (Mrs D Blackburn) H Candy 5-9-6 .... C Rutter [illegible]
8 (3) -000151 VERIDIAN 15 (D,F,S) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-9-3 .... K Fallon 95
9 (7) 0561-00 RIJAL 19 (D,F) (Miss J Semple) B Meehan 4-9-0 .... M Tebbutt 95
10 (12) 3400-00 ELA-YIE-MOU 171 (F) (Hatfield Ltd) S Dow 4-8-12 .... M Roberts 86
11 (10) -025312 FLORENTINO 12 (BF,F,G) (Lady Harrison) B Hills 4-8-10 .... M Hills 95
12 (9) 22-1103 RISING SPRAY 14 (D,F) (J Hercage) C Horgan 6-8-9 .... Paul Eddery 95

BETTING: 4-1 Oops Pettie, 5-1 Rokeby Bowl, 6-1 King Kato, Veridian, 7-1 Florentino, 10-1 Tykeyvor, Remaadi Sun, Rising Spray, 12-1 others.

1996: BETTER OFFER 4-9-12 M J Kinane (6-1) G Harwood 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROKEBY BOWL beat Forza Figlio ¾l in 5-runner limited stakes at Sandown (1m 3f 91yd, good to firm). KING KATO beat La Curamalal 1½l in 4-runner apprentice maiden at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm). TYKEYVOR about 6l 5th of 19 to Zaralaska in the Bessborough Handicap over course and distance (good to firm) with ROKEBY BOWL (2lb worse off) 1l 8th, OOPS PETTIE (2lb worse off) 1l 11th and RIJAL (2lb better off) 8l 17th. OOPS PETTIE 1¾l 2nd of 10 to Najm Mubeen in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm) Oct 96. REMAADI SUN 1¼l 2nd of 12 to Dream Of Nurmi in handicap at York (1m 4f, good). SHARP CONSUL neck 2nd of 7 to Whitechapel in handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, good to soft). VERIDIAN beat Twilight Sleep 3l in 7-runner handicap at Chester (1m 4f 66yd, good to firm).
Selection: VERIDIAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
S bin Suroor	13	50	26.0	M J Kinane	25	153	16.3
R Akehurst	17	90	18.9	L Dettori	35	222	15.8
Lady Herries	8	44	18.2	A Whelan	3	22	13.6
J Dunlop	26	147	17.7	Pat Eddery	33	254	13.0
Mrs J Cecil	4	24	16.7	M Hills	17	145	11.7
W Jarvis	3	18	16.7	J Reid	26	227	11.5

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: **Brighton** (first race, 2.00), **Newcastle** (2.15), Windsor (Sky, 6.15), **Yarmouth** (Sky, 6.00)

TUESDAY: **Goodwood** (BBC, 2.15), **Beverley** (2.00).

WEDNESDAY: *Goodwood* (BBC, 2.15), **Nottingham** (2.30), **Doncaster** (Sky 6.15), **Sandown** (Sky, 6.00)

THURSDAY: **Goodwood** (BBC, 2.15), **Doncaster** (2.30).

FRIDAY: **Goodwood** (BBC, 2.15), **Thirsk** (2.25), **Ascot** (Sky, 6.00), **Newmarket** (Sky, 6.10), **Salisbury** (5.50), Bangor (2.35)

SATURDAY: **Goodwood** (BBC, 2.15), **Newmarket** (2.00), **Thirsk** (2.10), **Hamilton Park** (Sky, 5.55), **Lingfield Park** (Sky 6.05), Newton Abbot (2.25), Market Rason (6.15)

SUNDAY: Chepstow (2.10), **Chester** (2.30), **Newcastle** (2.20)

Flat meetings in bold

هكذا منه الاصل

Doing the hokey cokey is in-thing at Headingley

LYNNE TRUSS

Kicking and Screaming

Crawley comes in after getting out as Croft goes out as next man in during the fourth Test match at Headingley yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

So to the nice, clean-cut batsman sitting thoughtfully to the left of the Headingley press box, on the balustradred balcony — had I properly identified him as the next man out? Well, nearly. In fact, of course, he was the next man *in*. And the disgraced chap approaching us, with his bat under his arm and his neck bent? He was coming in? Well, no, not exactly, because he was obviously *out*.

Which all goes to show that living with a cricketer must get very confusing at times. "Just popping in for a pint," he calls over his shoulder, donning a coat and opening the front door. "Oh. All right," calls his deranged wife, her eyes a-swivel. "Anything you want me to get while I'm in?" he adds, on the doorstep. "Shall I take the dog in?" Later, he gets home to find a scrawled note in a house from which all furniture and curtains have been removed. "Couldn't stand in-out thing any more," the note says. "Your dinner is out of the oven."

Cricketing terminology clearly takes some getting used to and one might argue that a Test match is not the ideal place to start. However, yesterday (the second, splendidly exciting day of the Headingley Test) I began to master the in-out inversion just in time to learn that, in certain circumstances, when England are batting, "in" actually implies "out" — the two states being almost simultaneously achieved. "He's in!" we said, throughout England's morning innings. We blinked and coughed. "Blimey, he's out as well!" It happened several times. In, out, in, out. Never have I seen a sporting event to which the lyrics of the hokey cokey more splendidly applied.

But, while exciting for the spectators, all this traffic back and forth put a visible strain on that universal sufferer: the Next Man In. Knowing naught of cricket, I had never seen a Next Man In before, though I suspect the game's literary tradition contains umpteen poetic tributes to this poor chap, holding himself, bat across his knee, in readiness for history to call his name. Newbolt and Kipling doubtless wrote sterling doggerel on the subject; First World War poets found a metaphor for going over the top. Courage, patience and an iron nerve serve this figure well. Plus an excellent bladder, of course.

Ah yes, how the hairs on the back of the neck stand up. *Play up (any minute), Play up (at extremely short notice) and Play the game (quite soon)!* The first chap waiting on the balcony yesterday was sixth man, Graham Thorpe, and if you have ever seen a person on the verge of tears, suddenly struck by the poignant memory of a much-loved puppy, that's what Graham Thorpe looked like as he waited in the anteroom of fate. Except to examine his fingernails or chew the side of his thumb, he never really moved.

Around him, colleagues and support crew relaxed in tracksuits, pointedly excluding him from conversation. He rubbed his nose. "Cheer up, it might never happen," would have been an inaccurate thing to say to him, but the urge was there. That face! So solemn! Whatever befell that much-loved puppy long ago, it is high time that he tried to put its loss behind him.

John Crawley, batting next, had a fag and drank from a tin of fizz. Going on body language, I suspected that he was a less sensitive type than his predecessor in the hot seat. Out on the field (or in it, for God's sake), Thorpe struck a rather splendid leaping shot at shoulder height, at which Crawley weighed up the odds and lit another fag.

According to the Test match programme notes, Crawley has a degree in history, which perhaps lends him perspective on the short-term. But he is no slouch. The moment that Atherton was caught out, Crawley was bounding down the steps to take his place — a tribute to either his laudable gameness or the terrible blood-rushing effects of nicotine.

The thing about cricket is that things happen simply, one at a time. This means it is fairly easy to follow, just so long as you know what is happening. Unfortunately, in the course of play yesterday, I personally saw at least 25 batsmen caught out ("Yes! Excellent! Oh hang on, no"), so it's clear there are mysteries that elude me. But this highly ordered approach to a game means that those waiting batsmen are obliged to join the queue, chew the lip and keep their engines at a high rev — and there is nothing that they can do about it.

'It all shows that living with a cricketer must get extremely confusing at times'

The hokey-cokey pattern worked well for both sides yesterday until, for some perverse reason, the Australia partnership of Matthew Elliott and Ricky Ponting forgot all about Ian Healy waiting for hours on the balcony, going vroom, vroom, vroom. "Sod him," they said. "We're staying out, I mean in."

What bad grace, not to make room for others. How ill-bred those Australians are. We English are in and out so quickly that sometimes we leave nothing behind but an aura. "Can't you see poor Healy waiting? He's been here ages," we urged those annoying batsmen, as they passed their respective centuries and fifties without a thought for others. "Come in, for pity's sake! And I don't mean in, I mean out!"

Durham work to stave off disaster

By Derek Hodgson

CHELTENHAM (third day of four): Durham, with three second-innings wickets in hand, require 64 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Gloucestershire

DURHAM found some steel yesterday, surviving 131 overs and an extra half hour, but their fourth championship defeat, and their third by an innings, still looms this morning.

David Boon, after a run of low scores, was at his most implacable in spending more than three hours over 66, and he had some staunch support from Jon Lewis, who scored 81, and the lower order. But Gloucestershire, without requiring much more than patient application, were able to reach the brink. Rain is their only danger today.

The College Ground recovered well after the deluge on Thursday, which had no effect on the pitch, the bounce remaining true. Durham resumed their attempt on the mountain 382 behind, cheering their travelling band with their best opening stand of the season.

Sharp chances were offered. Lewis to second slip, off Shaun Young, and Mike Roseberry to Jack Russell, off James Averis' first ball. But the first crisis came when first slip claimed Roseberry caught off Averis. Roseberry (40) asked Martyn Ball if the catch was clean, got the nod, and set off only to be recalled by umpire Steve Balderstone, who said afterwards that as he could not see the catch completed he had to give the batsman the benefit of the doubt.

Any animosity died five runs later when Roseberry had his stumps shattered. That brought together Durham's most successful batsmen, Lewis (averaging 40) and John Morris (43).

But Morris, as we know, is not a man of muck and nettles. He had creamed 37 runs putting a high polish on a mundane session when he drove to give gully a high catch, an almost identical dismissal to the first innings. Lewis and Boon ground out a further 54 in 27 overs before Lewis, pushing forward to Ball, was routed by an off break that turned.

Strang has the last word to deny Ramprakash

By Michael Henderson

LORD'S (third day of four): Kent (21pts) beat Middlesex (4) by four runs

KENT won a compelling match yesterday as Middlesex fell just short of glory. A boundary short, to be precise. Mark Ramprakash, who had batted superbly for 113, was left to ponder what might have been when Tufnell, the last man, prodded a catch to Ward at silly mid-off.

Tufnell had lent good support for eight overs either side of lunch as Ramprakash sometimes chose to protect him from the strike, sometimes not. They put on 20 before Strang insisted on having the final word. He took six wickets in the innings, including the last four, and, as he also held two catches, he was a busy man.

It was hard on Ramprakash, who opened the innings in place of Kallis and carried his bat to make his third hundred of the season. If there is any merit in the phrase, a captain's innings, then Ramprakash supplied it. He has adjusted well to the additional responsibility since Gatting stood down last month and nobody could have done more to bring his side victory.

When the day began Middlesex, on 134 for five, needed a further 127, with Ramprakash paired with Kallis. This was likely to be the crucial partnership. If they could stay together until lunch, or at least bat for most of the morning, then Middlesex should prevail.

Kallis started brightly until, in McCague's fourth over of the day, he was leg-before. That was McCague's ninth and, as it turned out, last wicket of the match. From now on it became a question of how well the batsmen played Strang, the Zimbabwean leg spinner, who wheeled away at the Nursery End.

Brown, handicapped by a badly bruised right index finger that forced him to give the wicketkeeping gloves to Gatting the day before, was out immediately. He favours the sweep, a stroke that has been known to favour him, but on this occasion he may have been wiser to leave it for an over or two, in order to acquaint himself with the bowling. Smith, at deep backward square leg, took the catch.

Middlesex were 157 when that wicket went down, leaving Ramprakash to find the necessary runs from the unlikely combination of Johnson, Fraser and Tufnell. In the end, they did not let him down. Gatting, the highest run-maker in the side, and Brown, one of the most reliable men in county cricket, contributed not a single between them and their failure ultimately cost Middlesex the match.

Johnson batted well enough to suggest that he has an all-round career ahead of him. He will never make a No 6 but some of his strokeplay indicated a talent that is worth developing. As he added 57 with Ramprakash, the thought began to grow that Middlesex might win. Bowled out for 105 in their first innings, they made the highest score of the match in pursuit of victory and were going strong when Johnson, on 33, chose not to offer a stroke to Strang and fell leg-before.

Fraser hung around for six overs and got a couple of decent clouts in. Then, unable as Brown had been to resist the sweep, he slogged Strang behind square and Smith, once again, took the catch. Amid rising excitement Tufnell survived until lunch, when 11 were still needed. But the win that Ramprakash had made possible was beyond them.

Give Kent their due. They were 24 for four on the first morning and struck back to win after a run of three successive defeats. McCague bowled fast and well, Kallis returned his best bowling figures, Strang spoke on behalf of the slow men and Ramprakash batted splendidly in a losing cause. It was a very good match.

Dale back in groove at right moment

By Michael Austin

CHESTERFIELD (third day of four): Derbyshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 177 runs ahead of Glamorgan

WITH perfect timing, in more than one sense, Adrian Dale resuscitated Glamorgan and revived his own form at Queen's Park yesterday. Dale had been dismissed without scoring three times in his past five innings, but he made amends with an unbeaten 142 — his best score of the summer — in guiding Glamorgan to full batting points.

Once the Welsh county had averted the threat of batting again, they declared immediately, offering the appetising prospect of a run chase today.

Glamorgan's revival made Derbyshire's first-morning score of 182 without loss seem just a bad dream, but their day was clouded by several batting misadventures. It was left to Dale, almost single-handed, to take the game to Derbyshire. His prime supporter was Adrian Shaw in a seventh wicket partnership of 90 in 32 overs. After they had added 35, Karl Krikken crucially missed stumping Shaw off the bowling of Matthew Vandrau.

Shaw, then 17, proceeded to make 38 before chopping a delivery from Devon Malcolm onto his stumps.

Glamorgan's major batting losses before the dilligent Dale took control included Matthew Maynard, caught when flicking the ball off his legs, and Tony Cottey, run-out in bizarre circumstances. Cottey miscued a stroke to silly point where Paul Aldred swooped and threw down the stumps with the batsman stranded and off-balance outside his ground.

Later, Gary Butcher was caught at first slip to provide one of three victims for Phillip DeFreitas. As Derbyshire's day deteriorated, their appealing became more impassioned but rarely fruitful.

They had a glimmer of a chance to make Glamorgan bat again when Waqar Younis was eighth out with 21 still needed, but Steve Watkin supported Dale in the final flourish, which leaves DeFreitas, the Derbyshire captain, with a tricky declaration to make.

Giles and Frost come to rescue

By Ivo Tennant

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Somerset, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 328 runs behind Warwickshire

AFTER all the floodlit merry-making, there was some rather more dogged cricket at Edgbaston yesterday. Warwickshire, who had just about begun their first innings the previous, rain-ruined day, collapsed to 157 for eight before Ashley Giles and Tony Frost, the reserve wicketkeeper, put on 141 in 42 overs, a record for the county's ninth wicket against Somerset.

When Giles was eventually yorked by Caddick, he had made 97, an innings that included 15 fours and two sixes. It would have been only the second century of his career, but he bats, at times, as if he is an all-rounder in the making. For Frost, his half century was his highest score. What was especially commendable about their partnership was that they came together at a stage when Mushtaq Ahmed had taken five wickets in his customary bewitching way.

Mushtaq's initial spell, before he changed ends, was one of 18-6-32-5. These wickets were actually taken at a cost of three runs if looked at from first to last.

It was a day's play which, at that time, was much in need of some captivating cricket, not least because of Somerset's poor over rate. Before lunch, taken at 1.30 — the hours of play in this match are all out of sync owing to the flood-lit match on Wednesday — they were averaging 13 an hour. So successful was the flood-lit affair, the atmosphere so charged, that some of the subsequent cricket has appeared commonplace.

The rain on Thursday, when only 11 balls were possible, did not, of course, help. A Sunday league contest can never have made such an impression before and probably never will again. In the heady off-the-field aftermath, Warwickshire offered Phil Neale, their director of coaching, a new two-year contract. He has yet to respond.

Warwickshire's opening partnership and their batting in the middle order was unexceptional. Caddick took two other wickets, having Wagh held in the slips and Moles leg-before. There was some decent batting from Hemp, who played with some ease and struck nine fours in his innings of 49 before he was caught at mid-on swinging rashly at Mushtaq.

The Pakistan leg-spinner then had Ostler taken at silly point and bowled both Smith and Brown with what looked to be googlies. When Welch went, sweeping, Warwickshire were 137 for seven. Next, Rose had Penney caught at the wicket off the inside edge. It looked as if Somerset would bowl them out for a paltry total until, that was, Giles and Frost came together. Another 14 runs and they would have established a ninth-wicket record against any county. Somerset were left to face two overs, which they survived without loss.

Tolley casts a spell over champions

By Rupert Cox

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, require 253 runs to beat, Nottinghamshire

UNTIL last week it would have taken some arduous thumbing through *Wisden* to ascertain Nottinghamshire's most recent hat-trick taker. Now, within the space of a week, they have acquired two and yesterday, at Grace Road, Chris Tolley's feat undermined the county champions, allowing Nottinghamshire to take the ascendancy. But, on an eventful and fluctuating afternoon, the Leicestershire seamers fought back to set up the chance of a second successive championship victory today.

Ten years ago, at Canterbury, during Nottinghamshire's double-winning season, Richard Hadlee completed a hat-trick, only matched by their young all-rounder, Paul Franks, last week, during the championship fixture against Warwickshire at Trent Bridge.

Tolley: hat-trick

At 12.10pm, Leicestershire, with their overnight pairing in command, were progressing serenely towards the visitors' total. At this stage, Tolley, whose previous 17 overs hardly hinted at the feat that was to follow, ostensibly redressed the balance by removing the centurion Darren Maddy, as well as Ben Smith and Paul Nixon. From there on Leicestershire batsmen capitulated as Tolley collected career-best figures of six for 61, leaving the Zimbabwe-born left-hander, Neil Johnson, stranded on 76.

In the morning, Maddy completed his third century of the season before Tolley began to cast his spell.

With a lead of 75 on first-innings, Nottinghamshire started cautiously with Guy Welton narrowly avoiding a pair on debut, by edging Alan Mullally wide of Nixon, and having his stumps rattled by a Mullally no-ball. But from there the left-armer regained sufficient rhythm to, in conjunction with James Ormond, run through the visitors' batting.

Mullally, so disappointing on the first day, gleaned his fourth five-wicket haul of the season with five for 62; but no less impressive was the former England under-19 seamer, Ormond, who, working up a good head of steam, up the hill, captured three for 55, including two wickets in consecutive balls, during two long spells.

Penberthy makes a worthy stand

By Richard Hobson

NORTHAMPTON (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 132 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Surrey

THERE are more sides to Chris Lewis than a 50p piece and few people were at the Wantage Road ground to witness one of them yesterday morning. With the clock yet to strike nine, Lewis was alone in the nets, marking out his run-up and striving to rectify the no-ball problem that had blighted his spell on Thursday evening.

Endeavour brought its due reward. In 20.3 hostile overs, Lewis took three wickets for 31 and overstepped three times. The contrast with his performance on the second day — seven no balls in five overs costing 51 — was extreme.

It is said that his follow-through is a barometer of his disposition. The closer he finishes to the batsman, the greater his ease with himself and the world. He was within touching distance yesterday and Taylor appeared a relieved man when he edged to slip, having been previously struck on the helmet and the arm during an especially brisk spell.

For a time it appeared that Northamptonshire might avoid the follow-on. They had passed 400 and were 31 runs short when Boswell became Lewis's final victim, but with further sturdy resistance today, three points for a draw are within their compass. The bounce remains even and Salisbury, the leg spinner, has posed little threat.

Tony Penberthy presented the widest shield to Surrey. Eight years ago, he marked his debut by removing Mark Taylor with his very first delivery. In his previous innings, against England at Headingley, Taylor had scored 136, so the young Cornishman became an immediate celebrity in his adopted county.

Penberthy has given good, unspectacular service since. Injury to Curran, who has broken both thumbs, prompted a re-call here, and he batted for 266 minutes in scoring 96, hitting 12 fours. He stood a firm blow away from a maiden championship hundred when he nudged Benjamin to Martin Bicknell at slip and scythed his bat through the air in disappointment.

Snape offered the most reliable support during a sixth-wicket stand of 123, this after Northamptonshire collapsed from 164 for one to 199 for five. Fordham and Sales followed deliveries outside the off stump, while Bailey pushed forward ineffectually and Warren edged a "heavy" ball from Martin Bicknell to gully.

Snape had recorded his third half-century of the season before a lavish swing of the bat presented Batty, the wicketkeeper, with a simple chance. From thereon in, Surrey needed to remain patient and alert and, if they require quick runs in the final session today, then they possess enough batsmen who can score quickly to cope.

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CRICKET

Law turns the tide to give Gooch a go

By Jack Bailey

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Worcestershire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 42 runs ahead of Essex

THE last of the summer wine has almost gone, but yesterday the beaujolais *nouveau* kept the Essex throng tolerably content. Darren Robinson, successor to Graham Gooch as the opening partner to Paul Prichard in the foreseeable future, duly completed the third hundred of his career — his first since July 1995, or 41 innings ago — and went on to turn his overnight 81 into a career best of 148 after 6½ hours at the crease.

From this, it will be deduced that Robinson has some way to go before he is as rich to the palate as Gooch at his best; but it was a performance that prompted Prichard to award the boy from Braintree his county cap during the tea interval.

Moody: dominated scoring

As one door closes, another opens . . . .

Essex batted on almost until tea, gaining a lead of 57 runs, thanks largely to a last-wicket partnership between Grayson and Andrew which raised an unlikely 53. This may well have done a large favour for those hoping to see Gooch at the wicket for one last appearance, a hope reinforced when Worcestershire lost three wickets in 17 balls at the end of the day.

Such bowled Spiring, the chief obstacle to Essex in the first innings, and then, in the last over of the day, Stuart Law's leg spin claimed the wickets of Rhodes and Haynes.

Before this, the spin of Such had appeared to hold the key although the lock had not yet clicked. Spinners had been in use for much of the day. The pitch has yielded slow turn throughout, but until that late clatter of wickets this had served more to slow the run rate than pierce the armour of careful batsmen.

One advantage of the use of so much spin has been an over-rate reminiscent of the Fifties, when 20 overs an hour was commonplace. Yesterday was not quite up to that mark, but to have the day's play finish on time three days in a row is as rare as the likes of Steve Andrew reaching double figures.

Before Andrew came in, the pattern of the Essex innings had followed that of Worcestershire with uncanny precision. Robinson had scored two fewer runs in 11 more minutes than Spiring, of Worcestershire; Essex, on 398 for nine, had progressed at almost exactly the same rate as their opponents. But Andrew, whose appearances for Essex in recent seasons have been as scarce as snowballs in July, played with a free swing of the bat, after a period of reconnaissance.

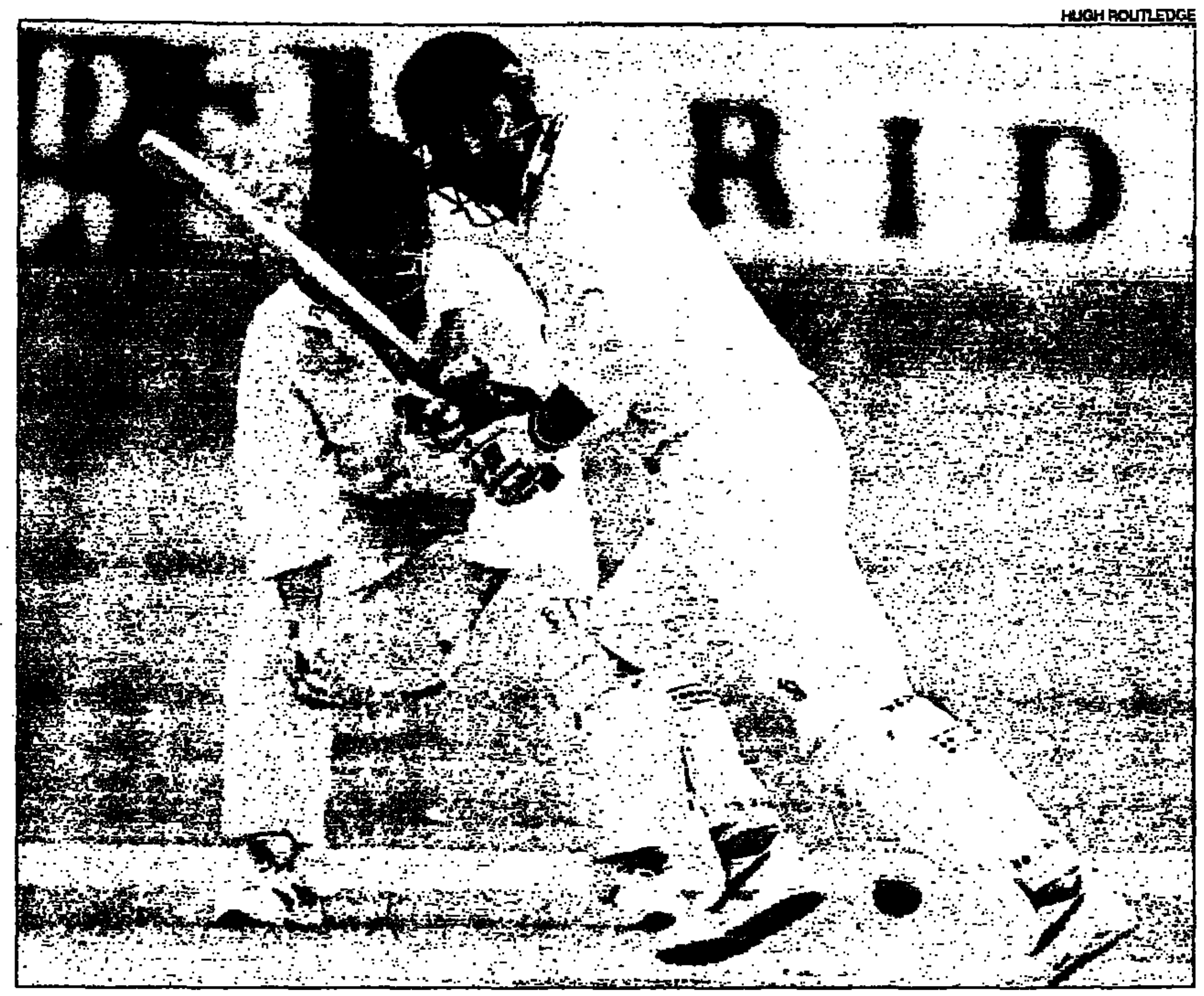
Grayson was batting well and had been very much in charge until Andrew got Solanki in his sights. A very slender lead became one of some substance as Andrew took 18 from an over.

Worcestershire lost Curtis and Moody in their second innings before they restored the balance. Such had Curtis caught at slip, low down by Prichard; Moody, having scored 41 out of 51 with panache, was caught behind.

So although for Gooch it had been a virtual day off, the turn of events as the evening shadows lengthened gave considerable hope that he will have one turn at the crease before fading into obscurity.

Furthermore, the chances of Essex improving their position in the race for the championship have been greatly improved by the turn of events during the last hour.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Robinson steers the ball off his legs during his innings of 148 which led to his being awarded a county cap

Hampshire battle on amid rumours

By Pat Gibson

SOUTHAMPTON (third day of four): Lancashire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 260 runs ahead of Hampshire

HAMPSHIRE kept their minds on the job yesterday as bizarre rumours about a takeover bid involving a millionaire called Rob Bransgrove, Mark Nicholas, the former captain, Chris Smith, now chief executive of the Western Australia Cricket Association, and even Shane Warne swept the County Ground.

They were all mentioned by George Pollock, a former Bournemouth magistrate, who has a petition signed by 100 members expressing deep concern with the way the club is run. Club officials will try to placate him at an informal members' forum today, but he may still call an extraordinary general meeting.

It could have been very distracting for a Hampshire team chasing a total of 569 for eight declared, but they responded so forcefully that Lancashire agreed not to enforce the follow-on when they declared at 412 for four, 157 runs behind. Hampshire then upset the balance of negotiations between the two captains by taking Lancashire's first five second-innings wickets for 53.

The morning was punctuated by the sound of expletives and bats crashing around the dressing-room as Hayden and Laney missed out on centuries. Hayden was six runs away from his fifth of the season when he tried to cut the off spinner Yates, and was caught behind; Laney was within five runs of his first when he was leg-before, pushing forward to Martin.

Smith also left in high dudgeon when he was given out leg-before to Gallian for 35. It was just as well for Hampshire that James stabilised the situation by occupying the crease for 43 overs and 30 runs before Keech seized the initiative with only his second century in seven seasons, off 129 balls with 17 fours.

Stephenson, who had been negotiating with Watkinson throughout an unbroken fifth-wicket stand of 85, then declared. What happened after that was more than he had bargained for.

Sussex build upon Greenfield site

By Barney Spender

HOVE (second day of four): Pakistan A, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 18 runs ahead of Sussex

THE cream of Pakistani youth began to curdle in the Hove sunshine yesterday as Keith Greenfield, the acting Sussex captain, and Amer Khan preyed on the touring side's boyish impatience to steal a slender first-innings lead.

The Pakistanis had only themselves to blame. After some fine bowling during the afternoon, especially from Ali Rizvi, the leg-spinner, Sussex were struggling at 232 for eight at tea and facing a sizeable first-innings deficit.

But, as Greenfield and Khan got their heads down, the bowling became worse. Surprisingly, Rizvi, who finished with three for 68, was allowed just five overs after tea while the fast-bowling trio of Shoaib Akhtar, Abdul Razzaq and Azhar Mahmood insisted on bowling shorter and wider and shouting louder and more despairingly.

With the pitch showing no signs of trickery, however, Greenfield, a robust player with a puzzling record in county cricket, thoroughly enjoyed it. He made his debut 10 years ago as a 19-year-old but only received his cap last year after taking a hundred off the touring Indians. This season he has barely made a run in the championship but has dominated in the one-day game, his 129 against Lancashire earning Sussex a highly unexpected win.

Yesterday, he eked out a workmanlike 50 before pulling and driving his way to his ninth first-class century from a further 59 deliveries. He hit 15 fours before Akhtar's well-judged catch at long-leg ended a ninth wicket partnership of 100 with Khan.

Prior to that, Sussex had stuttered, with Rajesh Rao and Toby Peirce putting on 76 for the first wicket before a Keystone Cops run out saw the end of Peirce. Neil Taylor then crashed 37 from 22 balls, hitting Rizvi for succesive sixes before the leg-spinner outfoxed him with a quicker ball. Kirtley then capitalised on the advantage by removing Ali Naqvi with the first ball of the Pakistani second innings and Edwards disposed of Saleem Elahi.

TRIATHLON

Racing to get in on London's appeal

By David Powell

THE London Triathlon is inspiring a boom in multi-sports in much the same way that the London Marathon prompted a running craze in Britain 15 years ago. Although there are nearly two months to go before the first London Triathlon, the event has reached its capacity for individual entries and only relay teams are being accepted now.

More than half the entries are from men and women who will be attempting their first triathlon. The 2,600 accepted individuals, combined with a relay that is likely to push numbers towards 5,000, ensures that London will be host to the largest triathlon in Britain and the second biggest in the world. Only the Mrs T's triathlon in Chicago is bigger, claiming between 5,000 and 6,000 competitors.

"To be the second biggest in the world in our first year is very rewarding," Michael Smithwick, the London Triathlon event manager, said.

"We are thrilled about it. Any further individual entries will be retained on a reserve list and offered a place if people pull out, and offered a guaranteed place for 1998."

The corporate relay, though, presents an appealing alternative. Held over the Olympic distance of 1,500 metres swim, 40 kilometres ride and ten kilometres run, it is aimed mainly at the business community but is open also to pubs and clubs.

Each team is made up of three competitors, one on each leg. "We have had more than 150 teams entered from approaching 100 companies," Smithwick said. Entry forms can be obtained from: The London Triathlon, 176 Blackfriars Road, SE1 8ER (Tel: 0171-928 5055).

To be held in Docklands on September 21, the London Triathlon will bring to the capital some of the world's leading professionals while encouraging lesser mortals to "have a go". Backed by the British Triathlon Association, it is a European Triathlon Union-approved event offering equal prize-money to men and women.

For those intent on a triathlon in London that day, but too late with their individual entry and not drawn by the relay, there is an alternative. The Spelthorne Triathlon, at Sunbury, will be held over a sprint distance (Tel: 01784-440113).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Smith fails to break butterfly record

MICHELLE SMITH, Ireland's triple Olympic champion, failed in her bid to break the world short-course record for 200 metres butterfly in Belfast yesterday. Smith, 27, swam 2min 8.15sec, more than two seconds outside the record of 2:05.65, set by Mary Meagher, of the United States, in 1981. Smith's best time, of 2:07.61, set last year, remains the sixth fastest ever. She won yesterday's race, at the Irish national championships, by more than 13 seconds.

Smith said that she had entered the race as preparation for the European championships, in Seville next month. She is the defending champion in the 200m butterfly and the 200m individual medley.

☐ **Golf:** Janice Moodie, who beat Karine Icher two and one, and Elaine Ratcliffe, who narrowly accounted for Maitene Alsuguren, were the only two British winners on a disappointing first day in the Vagliano Trophy at Halmstad, Sweden, yesterday. Europe now lead Great Britain and Ireland 7½-4½, and need only a further 4½ points today to retain the trophy.

☐ **Cycling:** Matthew Illingworth, a member of Britain's pursuit squad for the world track championships in Perth, Australia, next month, helped Harlow CC to the fastest time so far in the national 4,000 metres championship yesterday. The Harlow quartet qualified in 4min 24.852sec to meet Stockport Clarion.

☐ **Gliding:** Gill Spreckley and Lucy Withall, the Standard Class pair from Britain, retained the overall lead after finishing first and sixth on the second day of the European woman's championship in Prievidza, Slovakia, yesterday. Rose Johnson, eleventh on day two, remains second overall in the Club Class.

☐ **Polo:** England, with Howard Hipwood as captain, meet the United States for the Westchester Cup in Windsor Great Park tomorrow afternoon. Later on the same programme, Urs Schwarzenbach's Black Bears meet Hubert Perrodo's Labegorce for the Prince Philip Trophy.

☐ **Tennis:** Danny Sapsford was beaten 6-4, 7-6 by Jean-Baptiste Perlant, the No 8 seed from France, to end British interest in the Northern Electric Open tennis tournament in Newcastle yesterday.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Tour match

Sussex v Pakistan A

HOVE (second day of four): Pakistan A, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 18 runs ahead of Sussex

PAKISTAN A: First Innings 306 (Rana Qayyum 75, Azhar Mahmood 63).

Second Innings
Ali Naqvi lbw b Kirtley 0
Salim Elahi lbw b Edwards 17
Mujahid Jamshed not out 15
Abdul Razzak not out 9
Extras (lb 2) 2
Total (2 wkts) 43

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-28

BOWLING: Kirtley 6-0-23-1; Martin-Jenkins 2-0-10-0; Edwards 3-0-8-1

SUSSEX: First Innings
R K Rao c Mohammad b Abdul 71
M T E Peirce run out 37
N R Taylor lbw b Ali Husain 37
M Newell lbw b Azhar 4
*K Greenfield c Shoaib b Azhar 108
R S C Martin-Jenkins b Abdul 0
†S Humphries c Javed b Ali Husain 4
A D Edwards lbw b Ali Husain 4
J J Bates c and b Shoaib 3
A A Khan not out 33
R J Kirtley b Shoaib 0
Extras (b 5, lb 6, w 1, nb 18) 30
Total 331

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-72, 2-118, 3-129, 4-171, 5-171, 6-182, 7-204, 8-231, 9-331.

BOWLING: Shoaib Akhtar 19.4-4-72-2; Abdul Razzak 24-3-101-2, Azhar Mahmood 23-4-79-2; Ali Husain Rizvi 28-8-68-3.

Umpires: B J Meyer and J F Steele.

Britannic Assurance county championship

Derbyshire v Glamorgan

CHESTERFIELD (third day of four): Derbyshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 177 runs ahead of Glamorgan

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 513 for 6 dec (A S Rollins 148, M R May 116, V P Clarke 76 not out)

Second Innings
A S Rollins not out 19
M R May not out 6
Extras (lb 3) 3
Total (no wkt) 28

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 4-0-13-0; Watkin 6-2-11-0; Cosker 2-1-1-0

GLAMORGAN: First Innings
S P James lbw b DeFreitas 25
H Morris lbw b DeFreitas 11
S D Thomas c Vandrau b Harris 31
A Dale not out 142
*M P Maynard c Rollins b Vandrau 43
P A Cottey run out 14
G P Butcher c Clarke b DeFreitas 22
†A D Shaw b Malcolm 38
Waqar Younis c Barnett b Harris 8
S L Watkin not out 10
Extras (b 2, lb 8, nb 10) 20
Total (8 wkts dec, 100.5 overs) 364

D A Cosker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-64, 3-88, 4-151, 5-175, 6-222, 7-312, 8-343.

BOWLING: Malcolm 23-2-84-1; DeFreitas 24-3-86-3; Vandrau 21-5-68-1; Harris 17.5-4-81-2; Aldred 10-3-30-0; Clarke 5-0-25-0.

Bonus points: Derbyshire 7 Glamorgan 6

Umpires: J D Bond and V A Holder.

Gloucestershire v Durham

CHELTENHAM (third day of four): Durham, with three second-innings wickets in hand, require 64 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Gloucestershire

DURHAM: First Innings 86 (M W Alleyne 5 for 14).

Second Innings
J J B Lewis b Ball 81
M A Roseberry b Alleyne 45
J E Morris c Davis b Young 37
*D C Boon lbw b Young 66
†M P Speight c Russell b Lewis 44
M J Foster c Russell b Alleyne 15
A Walker c Wright b Davis 10
N J Speak not out 13
J Boiling not out 0
Extras (lb 2, w 2, nb 6) 10
Total (7 wkts) 321

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-92, 2-139, 3-193, 4-263, 5-286, 6-296, 7-310

BOWLING: Young 25-5-84-2; Lewis 16-5-42-1; Davis 27-11-31-1; Alleyne 20-6-50-2; Averis 12-2-54-0; Ball 28-9-58-1; Windows 1-1-0-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 471 for 8 dec (M W Alleyne 169, R C Russell 103 not out, M G N Windows 76, S Young 52; S J E Brown 4 for 120).

Bonus points: Gloucestershire 8 Durham 2.

Umpires: J C Balderstone and K E Palmer.

Essex v Worcestershire

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Worcestershire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 42 runs ahead of Essex

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 394 (K R Spiring 150, V S Solanki 60)

Second Innings
*T M Moody c Rollins b Andrew 41
T S Curtis c Prichard b Such 2
G A Hick not out 29
K R Spiring b Such 14
†S J Rhodes c Rollins b S G Law 4
G R Haynes c D R Law b S G Law 0
Extras (lb 3, w 4, nb 2) 9
Total (5 wkts) 99

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-51, 3-88, 4-99, 5-99.

BOWLING: Cowan 4-0-21-0; Irani 7-3-10-0; Such 13-5-27-2; Andrew 5-0-18-1; S G Law 4.5-0-20-2.

ESSEX: First Innings
G A Gooch b Sheriyar 11
*P J Prichard c and b Solanki 120
D D J Robinson b Haynes 148
S G Law c Curtis b Sheriyar 1
†R J Rollins c Leatherdale b Rawnsley 44
R C Irani b Moody 20
A P Grayson not out 45
D R Law c Rhodes b Moody 7
A P Cowan b Haynes 0
P M Such c Rhodes b Lampitt 0
S J W Andrew st Rhodes b Rawnsley 24
Extras (b 2, lb 7, nb 22) 31
Total 451

Score at 120 overs: 337-4.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-218, 3-223, 4-303, 5-359, 6-367, 7-390, 8-393, 9-398

BOWLING: Sheriyar 11-2-28-2; Haynes 20-5-53-2; Lampitt 14-4-54-1; Hick 34-9-79-0; Moody 12-2-50-2; Rawnsley 19-8-45-2; Solanki 31-6-86-1; Leatherdale 7-1-35-0.

Bonus points: Essex 5 Worcestershire 5

Umpires: J W Holder and G I Burgess

Hampshire v Lancashire

SOUTHAMPTON (third day of four): Lancashire, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 260 runs ahead of Hampshire

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 569 for 8 dec (M Watkinson 135, A Flintoff 117, G D Lloyd 90, N T Wood 82, I D Austin 69 not out)

Second Innings
J E R Gallian c Keech b Milburn 1
N T Wood c Aymes b Bovill 7
N H Fairbrother b Stephenson 18
G D Lloyd c Aymes b Milburn 1
A Flintoff c Maru b Bovill 19
*M Watkinson not out 24
I D Austin not out 25
Extras (lb 6, w 2) 8
Total (5 wkts) 103

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-10, 3-11, 4-51, 5-53.

BOWLING: Milburn 14-4-25-2; Bovill 10-2-42-2; Stephenson 13-3-30-1.

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
J S Laney lbw b Martin 95
M L Hayden c Hegg b Yates 94
K D James c Austin b Watkinson 30
R A Smith lbw b Gallian 35
M Keech not out 101
*J P Stephenson not out 37
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 12) 20
Total (4 wkts dec, 103 overs) 412

†A N Aymes, S D Udal, R J Maru, S M Milburn and J N B Bovill did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-200, 2-208, 3-252, 4-327.

BOWLING: Martin 14-5-41-1; Shadford 13-2-80-0; Austin 17-5-61-0; Watkinson 19-2-89-1; Yates 31-6-84-1, Gallian 9-1-39-1.

Bonus points: Hampshire 7 Lancashire 5.

Umpires: D R Shepherd and P Willey.

Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, require 253 runs to beat Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 342 (M P Dowman 149).

Second Innings
G E Welton c Nixon b Ormond 21
*R T Robinson c Nixon b Mullally 13
M P Dowman b Mullally 19
N J Astle c Johnson b Mullally 38
G F Archer c Smith b Ormond 35
U Afzaal c Nixon b Mullally 0
C M Tolley c Nixon b Ormond 10
†W M Noon lbw b Millns 7
M N Bowen c Nixon b Mullally 0
P J Franks not out 10
A R Oram b Millns 0
Extras (b 13, lb 6, nb 10) 29
Total 182

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-41, 3-91, 4-122, 5-122, 6-160, 7-160, 8-181, 9-182

BOWLING: Mullally 19-7-62-5, Ormond 20-1-55-3; Millns 7.4-2-21-2, Wells 5-1-24-0; Pierson 1-0-1-0.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings
V J Wells c Noon b Tolley 77
D L Maddy lbw b Tolley 103
I J Sutcliffe lbw b Astle 11
*J J Whitaker lbw b Astle 14
N C Johnson not out 78
B F Smith c Noon b Tolley 0
†P A Nixon c Astle b Tolley 0
J Ormond c Tolley b Oram 8
D J Millns lbw b Tolley 12
A R K Pierson b Oram 4
A D Mullally c Archer b Tolley 3
Extras (b 8, lb 3, nb 10) 21
Total (93 overs) 267

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52, 2-91, 3-109, 4-201, 5-201, 6-201, 7-217, 8-247, 9-260

BOWLING: Franks 5-2-9-0; Oram 20-8-49-2; Bowen 20-1-80-0; Tolley 25-8-61-6; Astle 20-2-50-2; Afzaal 3-1-7-0.

Second Innings
A R K Pierson not out 4
D L Maddy not out 0
Extras (lb 1) 1
Total (no wkt) 5

BOWLING: Tolley 2-0-4-0; Astle 1-1-0-0.

Bonus points: Leicestershire 6 Nottinghamshire 7

Umpires: A A Jones and R A White.

Middlesex v Kent

LORD'S (third day of four): Kent (21pts) beat Middlesex (4) by four runs

KENT: First Innings 208 (A P Wells 83) Second Innings 157 (J H Kallis 5 for 54).

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 105 (M J McCague 7 for 50)

Second Innings
P N Weekes c Strang b McCague 7
*M R Ramprakash not out 113
J C Pooley c Phillips b Igglesden 17
M W Gatting c Strang b Igglesden 0
O A Shah lbw b Strang 21
J P Hewitt b Strang 11
J H Kallis lbw b McCague 22
†K R Brown c Smith b Strang 0
R L Johnson lbw b Strang 33
A R C Fraser c Smith b Strang 13
P C R Tufnell c Ward b Strang 8
Extras (lb 8, w 3) 11
Total 256

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-8, 2-41, 3-41, 4-111, 5-125, 6-156, 7-157, 8-214, 9-236.

BOWLING: McCague 21-4-72-2; Igglesden 14-3-47-2; Phillips 7-0-31-0; Strang 27 2-2-88-6; Fleming 6-3-10-0

Umpires: J H Hampshire and D J Constant

Northamptonshire v Surrey

NORTHAMPTON (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 132 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Surrey

SURREY: First Innings 581 for 7 dec (A D Brown 170 not out, D J Bicknell 162, A J Hollioake 81)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings
R J Warren c B C Hollioake b M P Bicknell 72
D J Roberts b Lewis 10
A Fordham c A J Hollioake b Lewis 72
*R J Bailey c A J Hollioake b M P Bicknell 12
D J G Sales c Batty b Salisbury 4
A L Penberthy c M P Bicknell b Benjamin 96
J N Snape c Batty b B C Hollioake 52
†D Ripley b Salisbury 12
J P Taylor c B C Hollioake b Lewis 7
S A J Boswell c Ward b Lewis 12
Mohammad Akram not out 2
Extras (b 3, lb 7, nb 40) 50
Total 401

Score at 120 overs: 381-8

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-164, 3-184, 4-189, 5-199, 6-322, 7-345, 8-381, 9-399.

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 31-8-111-2, Lewis 25.3-7-82-4, Benjamin 16-6-41-1, Salisbury 32-4-85-2; B C Hollioake 10-1-31-1; A J Hollioake 9-1-36-0 Ratcliffe 2-0-5-0

Second Innings
D J Roberts not out 17
R J Warren not out 22
Extras (lb 1, w 6, nb 2) 9
Total (no wkt) 48

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 4-2-13-0; Lewis 3-1-16-0; B C Hollioake 2-0-7-0, Benjamin 3-0-3-0; Salisbury 1-0-8-0

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 6 Surrey 7.

Umpires: J H Harris and A G T Whitehead

Warwickshire v Somerset

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Somerset, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 328 runs behind Warwickshire

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings
*A J Moles lbw b Caddick 38
M A Wagh c Parsons b Caddick 23
D L Hemp c Parsons b Mushtaq 49
D P Ostler c Ecclestone b Mushtaq 4
T L Penney c Turner b Rose 22
N M K Smith b Mushtaq 0
D R Brown b Mushtaq 0
G Welch b Mushtaq 2
A F Giles b Caddick 97
†T Frost c Turner b Rose 56
A A Donald not out 19
Extras (b 4, lb 10, w 2, nb 10) 26
Total (108.4 overs) 336

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-112, 3-120, 4-125, 5-131, 6-131, 7-137, 8-157, 9-298

BOWLING: Caddick 30-8-92-3; Shine 23-6-61-0; Rose 19.4-8-61-2; Mushtaq Ahmed 31-9-66-5, Parsons 2-1-4-0, Trescothick 4-1-18-0

SOMERSET: First Innings
*P D Bowler not out 0
P C L Holloway not out 8
Total (no wkt, 2 overs) 8

S C Ecclestone, M E Trescothick, M N Lathwell, K A Parsons, †R J Turner, G D Rose, A R Caddick, Mushtaq Ahmed and K J Shine to bat.

BOWLING: Donald 1-1-0-0; Giles 1-0-8-0

Bonus points: Warwickshire 3 Somerset 4.

Umpires: T E Jesty and R Palmer

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of two: Brockhampton: Herefordshire 225-5 dec and 296-9 dec; Cheshire 209-6 dec and 313-8 (R G Hignett 112) Cheshire win by two wickets. First day of two: Bishop's Stortford: Staffordshire 190-8 dec (C G Feltham 54) and 49-1. Hertfordshire 188-6 dec (D M Ward 55)

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE: Port Adelaide 18 14 (122) bt Essendon 10 12 (72)

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia 7 San Francisco 4; San Diego 8 Pittsburgh 6, Houston 10 Montreal 5, Colorado 7 Chicago Cubs 1, New York Mets 3 Los Angeles 1
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Kansas City 5 Minnesota 3, Boston 3 Oakland 0; Seattle 11 Cleveland 1; Toronto 5 Milwaukee 4; Chicago White Sox 2 Texas 1 Postponed: New York Yankees v Anaheim

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Second day of three: Dunstable: Northamptonshire 484-9 dec and 128-2 (T C Walton 74); Derbyshire 336-6 dec (G A Khan 114, T Tweats 52). Final day of three: Canterbury: Middlesex 235 (K P Dutch 65, N J Llong 5-46) and 81 (E J Stanford 6-18), Kent 242 (W J House 75, P W T Key 72, K P Dutch 4-87, U B A Rashid 4-84) and 75-2. Kent win by eight wickets. The Oval: Surrey 377 and 52-0; Somerset 144 and 284. Surrey win by ten wickets. Solihull: Gloucestershire 146 (D A Altree 5-45) and 354-4 (N J Trainor 191 not out, D R Hewson 99), Warwickshire 443-9 dec (M A Sheikh 116, N V Prabhu 82, W G Khan 79). Match drawn. Worcester: Essex 344-9 dec and 91-0 dec; Worcestershire 123-1 dec and 317-9 (D B D'Oliveira 67). Worcestershire win by one wicket. Final day of four: Pontypridd: Glamorgan 402-8 dec (R V Almond 149, A W Evans 100, A P Davies 62) and 230 (J Derrick 62; A D Mascarenhas 6-82). Hampshire 410-8 dec (Mascarenhas 114 not out, W S Kendall 59) and 226-8. Hampshire win by two wickets. Chester-le-Street: Nottinghamshire 310-9 dec (M Newell 61 not out) and 108-9 dec (M J Saggers 6-43). Durham 191 (J W Hood 4-51) and 172-5 (S Hutton 53). Match drawn

CYCLING

TOUR DE FRANCE: Nineteenth stage (*Montbeliard to Dijon, 172km*): 1, M Traversoni (It, Mercatone Uno) 4hr 03min 17sec; 2, F Simon (Fr, GAN); 3, M Salligari (It, Casino); 4, C Henn (Ger, Telekom); 5, V Yekimov (Russ, US Postal Service); 6, T Bourguignon (Fr, Big Mat Auber); 7, E Dekker (Holl, Rabobank); 8, S Knaven (Holl, TVM); 9, S Outschakov (Ukr, Polti); 10, P van Petegem (Holl, TVM) all same time; 11, R Sorensen (Den, Rabobank) at 30sec; 12, A Pretot (Fr, GAN) at 37; 13, C Vasseur (Fr, GAN) at 17min 57sec; 14, A Baffi (It, US Postal Service); 15, T Schmidt (Ger, Roslotto); 16, L Aus (Est, Casino); 17, M Artunghi (It, Mercatone Uno); 18, E Zabel (Ger, Telekom); 19, M Tosatto (It, MG Technogym); 20, C Rinero (Fr, Cofidis); 133, M Sciandri (GB, La Française des Jeux) all same time. Leading overall positions: 1, J Ullrich (Ger, Telekom) 95hr 19min 17sec; 2, R Virenque (Fr, Festina) at 6min 22sec; 3, M Pantani (It, Mercatone Uno) at 10:13; 4, F Escartin (Sp, Kelme) 15:05; 5, A Olano (Sp, Banesto) 15:40; 6, F Casagrande (It, Saeco) 17:14; 7, B Riis (Den, Telekom) 18:07; 8, J M Jiménez (Sp, Banesto) 23:42; 9, R Conti (It, Mercatone Uno) 28:20; 10, L Dufaux (Switz, Festina) 29:29; 67, Sciandri at 2hr 33min 17sec. Today: Twentieth stage (time trial, Euro Disney, 63km).

MANCHESTER: BCF national track championships: Open sprint: Quarter-finals: C MacLean (City of Edinburgh RT) bt C Hoy (City of Edinburgh RT) 2-0; N Campbell (Glendene CC) bt R Darley (Bridon Cycles) 2-0; R Jefferies (Bridon Cycles) bt S Paulding (City of Edinburgh RT) 2-0; P Jacques (City of Edinburgh RT) bt G Edwards (Glendene CC) 2-0. Semi-finals: MacLean bt Jacques 2-0; Campbell bt Jefferies 2-0. Final: MacLean bt Campbell 2-0. Open 50km points race: 1, R Hayles (Team Ambrosia) 32pts; 2, J Clay (Manchester Phoenix) 20; 3, P West (Adidas-SciCon) 19. Women's 3,000m pursuit: Quarter-finals: V Fissell (VC Londres) 3min 56.439sec bt Z Anderson (Team Lusso) 3:56.456. S Boyden (Middridge CRT) 3:52.385 bt C Cook (Edinburgh RC) 4:00.145, M Ward (Condor Cycles RT) 3:51.195 bt K Wylie (Team Caledonia); Y McGregor (Adidas-SciCon) *3:50.098 bt C Gross (Ace RT)*. Semi-finals: Boyden 3:49.804 bt Ward 3:51.684. McGregor 3:50.700 bt Fissell 4:00.457. Final: McGregor 3:35.293 bt Boyden. Junior 30km points race: 1, B Wiggins (Condor Cycles RT) 39min 56.514sec, 48pts; 2, S Cummings (Birkenhead North *End CC) 18; 3, O Sutcliffe (Huddersfield* RC) 13

FOOTBALL

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Morecambe 0 Dundee 1, Barwell 1 Leicester City 2; Gala 0 Berwick 7, Barrow 1 Carlisle 2, Cliftonville 1 Raith 1; Hartlepool 1 Motherwell 1, Accrington 2 Preston 0; Scunthorpe 1 Lincoln City 2; Gloucester 4 Bristol City 1, Kilkenny 0 Tranmere 1, Glenavon 1 Burnley 1; St Albans 0 Leyton Orient 1; Ayr 0 Coventry 3; Crawley Town 0 Port Vale 5, Enfield 1 Tottenham XI 0; Billericay 3 West Ham XI 2; Deal 0 Southend 1; Bromsgrove 1 Stoke 1; Yeovil 2 Bury 1
REYKJAVIK: European youth championship: France 3 Ireland 2
COPA LIBERTADORES: Semi-finals, first leg: Cruzeiro (Br) 1 Colo Colo (Chile) 0; Racing (Arg) 3 Sporting Cristal (Peru) 2

GOLF

HILVERSUM: Sun Microsystems Dutch Open: Early leaders after two rounds (*Great Britain and Ireland unless stated*): 131: S Struver (Ger) 67, 64. 134: D Gilford 65, 69. 135: R Claydon 67, 68; M A Jiménez (Sp) 67, 68, M Tunnicliff 65, 70. 136: R Chapman 66, 71, P McGinley 67, 69. 137: J Spence 69, 68, A Cabrera (Arg) 71, 66, S Webster 70, 67; M Anglert (Swe) 72, 65; D *Tapping 68, 69. 138: M James 69, 69*, D Chopra (Swe) 71, 67; R Boxall 68, 70. 139: J Sandelin (Swe) 70, 69; J Coceres (Arg) 69, 70. 140: M Long (NZ) 69, 71; T Gogele (Ger) 70, 70; R Karlsson (Swe) 69, 71, D Carter 71, 69, S Cage 70, 70; C Rocca (It) 68, 72; R Russell 70, 70. 141: V Phillips 71, 70; M Roe *70, 71, J Hawkes (SA) 71, 70; A Cejka (Ger)* 70, 71, R Drummond 71, 70; I Feliu (Sp) 69, 72; P Sjoland (Swe) 69, 72. * M Lafeber (Holl) 72, 69, E Canonica (It) 73, 68; J Rivero (Sp) 70, 71; A Johnstone (Zim) 69, 72.
* denotes amateur
CROMWELL, Connecticut: PGA Greater Hartford Open: Leading first-round scores (all United States): 64: W Levi, E Johnson. 65: S Pate. 66: J P Hayes, T Byrum, J Durant, D Barron. 67: K Sutherland, J Maggert, J Morse, C Rymer, L Clements, P H Horgan, A Rodriguez, T Pernice Jr, B Geiberger, P Stankowski, B Faxon, K Gibson
HALMSTAD, Sweden: Vagliano Trophy: Europe 7½ Great Britain and Ireland 4½ (Europe names first: Foursomes: M Hedberg (Swe) and U Jidlio (Swe) lost to A Rose (Stirling) and K Rostrom (Clitheroe) 5 and 4; S Cavalleri (It) and G Sergas (It) halved with J Moodie (Windyhill) and M McKay (Turnbury); A Sánchez (Sp) and M Prieto (Sp) bt B Morgan (Monmouth) and R Hudson (Wheatley) 2 and 1: M Alsuguren (Fr) and K Icher (Fr) halved with E Ratcliffe (Sandiway) and E Power (Kilkenny). Singles: *Sánchez bt Rose 1 hole*, J Lindbergh (Swe) bt Rostron 5 and 4; Cavalleri bt K Stupples (Royal Cinque Ports) 1 hole; Icher lost to Moody 2 and 1; Prieto bt McKay 2 and 1; Hedberg halved with Morgan; Sergas bt Power 4 and 3: Alsuguren lost to Ratcliffe 2 holes)
TREUDELBERG: Women's German Open: Leading first-round scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 66: S Melin (Swe) 67: M-J Rouleau (Can) 68: P Meunier Lebouc (Fr), L Brooky (NZ), J Leary (Aus). 69: M Koch (Ger), S Eklund (Swe), K Pearce (Aus). 70: L Fairclough, S Gustafson (Swe), D Booker (Aus). M-T Pistolet-Boselli (Fr), K Tebbet, A Gottmo (Swe), M Hjorth (Swe), G Stewart, S Elliott. 71: E Steen (Swe), V Stensrud (Nor), R Camedo (Sp), E-J Smith, J Forbes, K Lunn (Aus), I Tinning (Den), J Mills (Aus), L Jensen (US), L Lambert (Aus), H Hopkins (Aus), M Lojdahl (Swe)
MANNINGS HEATH, Sussex: National married couples matchplay championship: Third round: M and A Walsh (Cottesmore) bt R and S Newton (West *Herts) at 19th. D and D Lewis (Manning* Heath) bt P and M Parvin (Portsmouth) 2 and 1. D and A Burridge (Wentworth/Ealing) bt D and M Brooks (Mickleover) 1 up; G and N Plumtree (Burghley Park) bt J and M Aitken (Datchet) 3 and 2; E and J Jackson (Addington Palace) bt E and J Hoffman *(Forrester Park) 2 and 1; P and M Francis* (Ashford) bt A and P Mulhall (East Sussex National) 1 up, H and C Jones (Lewes) bt J and V Haggar (West Malling) at 20th; S and C Munro (Northwood) bt C and J Ellis (Paxhill Park) 2 up. Quarter-finals: Walshes bt Lewises 1 up, Plumtrees bt Burridges 2 *and 1. Franceses bt Jacksons 5 and 4;* Munros bt Joneses at 21st. Semi-finals: Walshes bt Plumtrees at 19th, Frances bt Munros 1 up. Final: Walshes bt Frances 5 and 4

LACROSSE

STOCKHOLM: European championships: Men: England 15 Sweden 4. Women: England 12 Germany 1

NETBALL

CAPE TOWN: International match: South Africa 53 England 48 (South Africa win series 3-0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

World club championship
Pool A
Auckland 70 St Helens 6
Auckland Warriors: Tries: Ngamu 3, Eru 2, Hoppe 2, L Oudenryn 2, Betts, Ellis, Jones. *Goals: Ridge 11. St Helens: Try: Hunte.* Goal: Goulding. Att: 13,000
DARWIN: Tour match: Northern Territory 6 Sheffield Eagles 28
ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Halifax 38 Hull Kingston Rovers 22, Oldham 24 Bradford 8.
AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (ARL): Parramatta 17 Manly 10, Newcastle 42 Western Suburbs 6

SHOOTING

BISLEY: NRA imperial meeting: Grand aggregate (overall championship): 1, A Luckman (Sedgemoor RC) 587 89. 2, A Ringer (Uppingham Veterans) 586 81; 3, S Collings (Windsor) 585 83. 4, J Underwood (Old Guildfordians) 584 89. Corporation Cup (after tie): 1, J Munn (E Scotland) 50.8/24.2; 2, G Chase (Canada) 50.6/24.1, 3, J Warburton (Huddersfield) 50.6/22.2. Alexandra Cup (after tie): 1, S Bessonette (Canada) 60.9/25.3; 2, U A Miller (Australian Army) 50.9/24.4; 3, C Weeden (N London) 50.9/24.4. Wimbledon Cup (after tie). 1, M Wood (Huddersfield) 50 10/25.4, 2, A Barnes (Bedfordians) 50 10/24.3; 3, Hussin bin Maj (Malaysia) 50 10/24.2. Rifle Clubs Cup (300, 500 and 600 yards): 1, Uppingham Veterans 417 63; 2, Natwest Bank 416 40; 3, Wandsworth 415 61. Families Cup: 1, The Malletts (Jersey) 208.29; 2, The Luckmans (Somerset) 207.30; 3, The Comms (Huddersfield) 207.28. Prince of Wales Prize: J Underwood (Old Guildfordians), R de V Chase (Kimboltons), J Brekke (Cardiff ATC) tied, 75 16. National Trophy (teams of 20). 1, England 2060.278 (J Underwood 105 19), 2, Scotland 2034.240 (D Hume 104 10), 3, Ireland 2,015.231 (D Calvert 104 18); 4, Wales 1,991.213 (P Gray 105.13). Overseas match: 1, Canada 1,221.156, 2, Australia 1,203.116; 3, Jersey 1,198.116

TENNIS

LOS ANGELES: Men's tournament: Second round: J Courier (US) bt M Bhupathi (India) 7-6, 6-3, B Black (Zim) bt J Gimelstob (US) 6-2, 7-6, G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt O Delaitre (Fr) 7-5, 7-6, R Krajicek (Holl) bt G Weiner (US) 7-5, 5-7, 7-6
UMAG, Croatia: Men's tournament: Second round: A Martin (Sp) bt K Kucera (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-4, A Portas (Sp) bt I Ljubicic (Cro) 7-6, 6-1; J Sánchez (Sp) bt A Voinea *(Rom) 6-2, 6-4. C Moya (Sp) bt F Vicente* (Sp) 2-6, 6-2
KITZBÜHEL: Men's tournament: Third round: F Dewulf (Bel) bt J A Viloca (Sp) 6-4, 6-2; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt R Furlan (It) 7-6, 6-7, 6-1. Quarter-finals: S Dosedel (Cz) bt M Filippini (Uru) 7-5, 6-4, J Alonso (Sp) bt H *Gumy (Arg) 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 Dewulf bt* Kafelnikov 7-5, 7-5
STANFORD, California: Women's tournament: Second round: K Po (US) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-3, 6-1; C Martinez (Sp) bt A Frazier (US) 6-1, 6-1, M Seles (US) bt R Grande (It) 6-2, 6-1; L Wild (US) bt A Kremer *(Lux) 6-3, 6-4*
WARSAW: Women's tournament: Second round: G Leon Garcia (Sp) bt A Olsza (Pol) 6-2, 6-1, L Nemeckova (Cz) bt L Courtois (Bel) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) bt B Schett (Austria) 6-1, 5-7, 7-5, O Lougina (Ukr) bt M Maruska (Austria) 6-3, 6-2. Third *round: R Dragomir (Rom) bt M Sanchez-*Lorenzo (Sp) 6-3, 2-6, 6-1. B Paulus (Austria) bt M Babel (Ger) 6-0, 6-0, H Studenikova (Slovakia) bt S Cocchini (It) 1-6, 6-3, 6-3, H Nagyova (Slovakia) bt Lougina 6-2, 6-1; Leon Garcia bt D Chladkova (Cz) 6-4, 6-3, J Kruger (SA) bt K *Boogert (Holl) 6-4, 6-2. Ruano-Pascual bt* Nemeckova 6-4, 4-6, 6-1. C Torrens-Valero (Sp) bt P Schnyder (Switz) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2. Quarter-finals: Ruano Pascual bt Kruger 7-5, 7-5, Dragomir bt Studenikova 6-2, 6-3, Nagyova bt Torrens-Valero 6-3, 6-1. Paulus bt Leon Garcia 6-2, 6-0.
JESMOND: *Northern Electric Men's International:* Second round: S Grosjean (Fr) bt J Imaz (Sp) 6-4, 2-6, 7-6. F Santoro (Fr) bt T Guardiola (Fr) 6-2, 7-5. R Gilbert (Fr) wo D Salvador scr. A Belobrajdic (Aus) bt F Veglio (Switz) 6-4, 6-1, J Perlant (Fr) bt D Sapsford (GB) 6-4, 7-6. Third round: Gilbert bt A Clement (Fr) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, Grosjean bt O Burrieza (Sp) 6-2, 6-4. Santoro bt Belobrajdic 6-3, 6-1, Perlant wo A Bootsch (Ger)
EASTBOURNE: LTA inter-county grass-court championships: Men: Group one: Hampshire and Isle of Wight 8 Yorkshire 1, Berkshire 5 Devon 4; Buckinghamshire 5 Surrey 4. Women: Group one: Essex 8 Yorkshire 1, Warwickshire 8 South Wales 1, Middlesex 8 Leicester 1
HATFIELD: European under-16 championships: Boys: Quarter-finals: J Maes (Fr) bt J Johansson (Swe) 6-2, 7-5, F Lopez (Sp) bt R Federer (Switz) 6-4, 2-6, 7-5. G Martinjac (Slovenia) bt B Bachert (Ger) 7-6, 7-6. L Charmosta (Cz) bt A Vinciguerra (Swe) 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. *Girls: Quarter-finals:* H Daniilidou (Gr) bt T Pisnik (Slovenia) 6-4, 6-4, J Halackova (Cz) bt C Charbonnier (Switz) 6-2, 6-3; T Hopnik (Slovenia) bt O Lazarchuk (Ukr) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, L Dominguez (Sp) bt Z Gubacsi (Hun) 6-0, 6-1

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Ipswich 44 Peterborough 45
PREMIER LEAGUE: Sheffield 48 Arena Essex 42

YOUTH OLYMPICS

LISBON: European youth Olympics: British performances: Finals: Athletics: Boys: 200m: 5, D Burley. 400m hurdles: 1, R McDonald 52.98. 4 x 100m relay: 1, Great Britain (K Stewart, R McDonald, D Burley, L Davis) 40.97. High jump: 5, M Lloyd 2.06m. Pole vault: 6, R Smith 4.60m. Javelin: 1, T Kinney 64.20m. Girls: 200m: 2, K Palmer 24.18. 400m hurdles: 6, R Kay. 4 x 100m relay: 3, Great Britain (K Denham, R Kay, K Palmer, K Thomas) 46.93. Long jump: 3, D Freeman 6.19m. Swimming: Boys: 200m freestyle: 4, S Burtenshaw. 400m individual medley: 4, R Francis. Breaststroke: 100m: 3, S Seddon. 200m: 5, R Martin. 4 x 100m relay: 5, Great Britain (F Bailey, S Seddon, D Bennett, S Burtenshaw). Girls: 100m breaststroke: 7, J Mullins. 200m butterfly: 1, S Healey. Individual medley: 200m: 4, K Orr. 400m: 3, N Brown. 4 x 100m medley relay: 6, Great Britain

مطابق للأصل

MOTOR RACING: DRIVERS UNDER INCREASED PRESSURE IN GERMAN GRAND PRIX AS TEAMS PLAN FOR FUTURE

Berger overtaken by age in the generation game

FROM ROB HUGHES AT HOCKENHEIM

WHAT price experience on the critical competitive edge of Formula One motor racing? Yesterday, dodging torrential rain here, the Schumachers finished first and second after free practice, with Ralf, the younger, steering his Jordan-Peugeot fractionally ahead of Michael's Ferrari and with Gerhard Berger, the old man of the track, touring around in fourteenth position on his return to the seat of his Benetton-Renault after sinus operations.

Official practice today will determine the grid positions for the German Grand Prix tomorrow, a fact readily acknowledged by Ralf Schumacher. "Really, it was quite useless, the first session. I had a spin and then I got the fastest lap, but I was lucky to be out in the one short period when the track was dry." Nevertheless, the 20-year-old baby of the Formula One family handled the 4.23-mile track with enough skill to clock 1min 46.196sec, faster than the official lap record.

But if it means so little to him, then consider that this is now beyond mid-season. The dangers and pressures are increased because the Formula One teams are already casting one eye to next season. Their designers and technicians are considering the extensive alterations that will come with new, grooved tyres, and their owners are casting aside experienced drivers for younger, cheaper, possibly more daring and thrusting motorists. Almost daily, one or other of the unsettled drivers is being courted by opponents.

Berger, who will be 38 next month, already knows that he will not drive many more races for Benetton. His place has been allocated to Giancarlo Fisichella, the Jordan driver 15 years his junior, who may come several million pounds cheaper and who has the advantage to an Italian car manufacturer of being Italian-born.

Why does Berger bother? He admits that there are enough millions in the bank to take care of himself, his wife, Ana, and daughters, Christina and Sarah. He has driven, before this weekend, 202 grands prix, winning only nine of them; long on experience, short on motivation some say.

Ralf Schumacher: maturing

He talks of giving it everything over the next three races, looking "for another motivation and direction", certainly not retiring from the competitive seat that is all he has known for 13 years in Formula One, 16 years in racing cars. And yet there is a sadness, a hollowness, to Berger caused by the death in a light aeroplane crash three weeks ago of his father, his No 1 fan. "I miss him terribly. I am still trying to come to terms with the empty feeling, but I want to stay in Formula One. I don't want to be a team boss. I'm not worried about money and for the moment I have races in which to perform."

He cannot drive much better here than he did last year when, leading with two laps to go, his Benetton failed him. With all that experience and money in the bank, fate and the staying power of engines on a track that takes cars rather than drivers to their limits, can take matters out of the driver's hands.

Even in such circumstances, some teams do not help the driver's peace of mind. At Williams, the team whose omnipotence is being pressurised, at last, by resurgent Ferrari, Heinz-Harald Frentzen, the German who replaced Damon Hill this season, has pinpointed "a generation gap" between himself and Patrick Head, the team's technical director.

Two weeks ago, at Silverstone, Frentzen exasperated his employers first by stalling on the grid, then crashing on lap one. "Contrary to people's expectations," Head said yesterday, "Heinz-Harald has not been invited to the factory for a whipping. What happened at Silverstone is an internal matter, we have to put it behind us."

MICHAEL URBAN

Berger, who has driven in more than 200 grands prix, confirmed yesterday that he will not be with Benetton next year

However, Frentzen is under pressure here similar, and worse, to that of Hill at Silverstone. Not only is this Frentzen's home grand prix but, unlike Hill, he is in a vehicle that ought to put him in with a podium chance. And in some of the soul-searching by the 30-year-old German, he identified the difficulty that older technicians have in relating to younger drivers' set-ups. "A generation gap do you mean?" Head said, raising an eyebrow. "Well, for sure it is more difficult to relate, but we do have race engineers and technicians at Williams close to the drivers' age. It is a problem of life, not restricted to motor racing."

Sitting close by, the younger Schumacher put an old head on young shoulders. "For sure, there is a difference when you are young and someone is older, but I have no difficulty in relating to my father. I even find it helpful having an older brother. If you are inexperienced, and there is someone who can tell you something, the age difference should not make it difficult to listen, not in my case."

To conclude the mild acrimony in the Williams kitchen, Head stated yesterday that he was positive and confident that "if we get the best out of our equipment, we can take the fight to Michael [Schumacher] in particular, Ferrari in general". He denied that he had suggested that Ferrari were "cheating" in making swift use of electronic traction control, allowed by a relaxation of the Formula One ruling in mid-season. Indeed, Williams and Mercedes, who power the McLaren cars of Mika Hakkinen and David Coulthard, are making swift attempts to follow Ferrari's lead. Meanwhile, Head insists: "I don't consider we will make any change to our two drivers for next season. Both are under contract. Heinz-Harald has a two-year contract, and we've taken up the option on Jacques Villeneuve for next season as well."

So, tomorrow, let racing recommence. The contest is between youth and experience.

DETAILS FROM HOCKENHEIM

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, R Schumacher (Ger, Jordan-Peugeot) 1min 46 196sec. 2, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 1.46 322; 3, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Petronas) 1 46.517; 4, R Barrichello (Br, Stewart-Ford) 1 46.526, 5, N Fontana (Arg, Sauber-Petronas) 1 46 706, 6, P Diniz (Br, Arrows-Yamaha) 1 46 873 7, S Nakano (Japan, Prost-Mugen-Honda) 1:47 143· 8, M Hakkinen (Fin McLaren-Mercedes) 1 47 386 9, D Hill (GB, Arrows-Yamaha) 1:47 542; 10, E Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 1:47 594, 11, J Verstappen (Holl, Tyrrell-Ford) 1:47 720, 12, J Magnussen (Den, Stewart-Ford) 1:47 769, 13, J Trulli (It, Prost-Mugen-Honda) 1:47 784· 14, G Berger (Austria, Benetton-Renault) 1 47.887, 15, J Alesi (Fr, Benetton-Renault) 1 48 455; 16, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) 1:48 639, 17, D Coulthard (GB, McLaren-Mercedes) 1 48 648, 18, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Williams-Renault) 1 48.958; 19, G Fisichella (It, Jordan-Peugeot) 1 49 010, 20, T Marques (Br, Minardi-Hart) 1 49 563, 21, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell-Ford) 1 49 831, 22, U Katayama (Japan, Minardi-Hart) 1 51 058

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS
(after nine races)

DRIVERS: 1, M Schumacher 47pts; 2, Villeneuve 43, 3, Alesi 21; 4, Frentzen 19, 5, Irvine 18; 6, O Panis (Fr, Prost-Mugen-Honda) 15; 7, Coulthard 14, 8 equal, Berger and Hakkinen 10; 10, Fisichella 8, 11 equal, Herbert and R Schumacher 7, 13, Barrichello 6, 14, Wurz 4, 15, Salo 2, 16 equal, N Larini (It, Sauber-Petronas), Nakano and Hill 1.

CONSTRUCTORS: 1, Ferrari 65pts, 2, Williams-Renault 62; 3, Benetton-Renault 35, 4, McLaren-Mercedes 24, 5, Prost-Mugen-Honda 16; 6, Jordan-Peugeot 15, 7, Sauber-Petronas 8, 8, Stewart-Ford 6; 9, Tyrrell-Ford 2; 10, Arrows-Yamaha 1

GRANDS PRIX TO COME: Tomorrow: German (Hockenheim) Aug 10: Hungarian (Hungaroring) Aug 24: Belgian (Spa-Francorchamps), Sept 7: Italian (Monza) Sept 21: Austrian (A-1 Ring) Sept 28: Luxembourg (Nürburgring) Oct 12: Japanese (Suzuka), Oct 26: European (Jerez)

RUGBY UNION

Leota adds to Wasps' front-row options

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

WASPS have strengthened their squad for the defence of their league title by signing Trevor Leota, the Western Samoa hooker. Leota, 21, recently won his first full cap against Tonga and impressed Nigel Melville, the Wasps director of rugby, when he toured Britain last year.

"We saw Trevor play in England and Scotland and watched his progress back home and in New Zealand, where he lives," Melville said yesterday. "He is a very good, ambitious player and should be here in a month ready to fight for a Wasps place."

Leota will compete with Simon Mitchell and Dugald Macer for the principal hooking spot at Loftus Road, now that Kevin Dunn has departed for Bristol. Melville has also persuaded Dinos Alexopoulos, 19, a prop forward and former Millfield schoolboy, to move across London from Harlequins.

Wasps have already added Mark Weedon, the New Zealand second row, and Simon Shaw, the England lock, to their complement of forwards this summer and, with the Scotland pair of Andy Reed and Damian Cronin still at the club, the competition for places in the front five will be fierce.

☐ John Hart, the New Zealand coach, said yesterday that Sean Fitzpatrick, the captain, has only a 50 per cent chance of being fit to lead the All Blacks in their Bledisloe Cup match against Australia in Melbourne today. The hooker will have a late fitness test on the knee injury that he aggravated during the 35-32 victory over South Africa at Ellis Park, Johannesburg, last week.

"Clearly there is still a bit of a problem," Hart said. If Fitzpatrick is ruled out, Norm Hewitt will take over as hooker, with Zinzan Brooke assuming the captaincy.

AUSTRALIA: M Burke, B Tune, J Little, J Holbeck, J Roff; T Horan, G Gregan; A Heath, M Foley, R Harry, D Manu, G Morgan, J Eales (captain), B Robinson, M Brial

NEW ZEALAND: C Cullen; J Wilson, F Bunce, A Ieremia, G Osborne; C Spencer, J Marshall; C Dowd, S Fitzpatrick (captain) or N Hewitt, O Brown, T Randell, I Jones, R Brooke, J Kronfeld, Z Brooke.

Referee: E Morrison (England)

THE TIMES

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http://www.the-times.co.uk CHANGING TIMES

ROWING

Britain pin hopes on medal collection

BY MIKE ROSEWELL

GREAT Britain have 16 crews racing in Milan this weekend in the Nations Cup, the world under-23 championships. Britain have shown a strong pedigree in recent years in the age group, coming home last year with a gold, two silver and two bronze medals, and the team this year is again an experienced one.

The ten-crew men's team includes the quadruple scull of Simon Cottle, Mark Hammond, Tom Gale and Mark Hunter, who reached the Henley final and caused a significant upset by racing past their British senior counterparts in their first Royal Regatta race.

An extra carrot for the younger crews to do well is the fact that the selectors have not yet named the senior quad for the world championships.

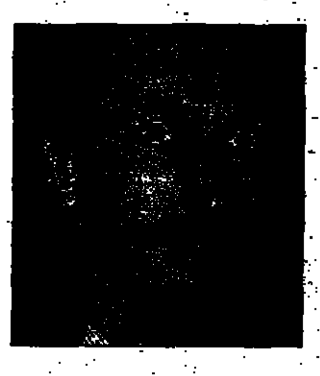
Among the six women's crews, the Kingston double scull of Claire Fox and Vicky Fangen has plenty of experience and the two scullers, the heavyweight Elise Laverick and the lightweight Sarah Watts, have already been "blooded" at this level, achieving a bronze and a fourth place respectively last year.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM: Men: Quad scull: S Cottle (Oxford University), M Hammond (Notts County), T Gale (Queen's Tower), M Hunter (Poplar). **Double scull:** A Bird (Leander), T Kingswell (Poplar) **Single scull:** S Goodbrand (Rob Roy) **Coxless pair:** E Coode (Newcastle University), S Trapmore (Notts County) **Coxless four:** T Carson, D Marott, S Williams, F Scarlott (all Oxford Brookes). **Coxed four:** D Hutchins, S Fieldhouse, D Wright, J Edwards (all London University), R Douglas (Oxford Brookes) **Eight:** N Sargant (Imperial College), A Large (Queen's Tower), E Cook (Imperial College), T Bray (Imperial College), P Simmons (Molesey), B Steele (Molesey), S Eyre (Imperial Coll), N Robinson (Oxford Univ), Cox: M Hussey (Imperial College) **Lightweight single scull:** T Male (Tideway Scullers). **Lightweight quad scull:** G Ireland (London University), R Adams (London University), S Lee (Walton), T Middleton (Downing College) **Lightweight Coxless Four:** A Tucker, M Louzado, G Davis (all Notts County), G Cundell (Oxford Brookes)

Women: Double scull: C Fox, V Fangen (both Kingston). **Single scull:** E Laverick (Thames). **Coxless pair:** K Grainger (Edinburgh Univ), F Zino (Magdalene). **Coxless four:** C Vincent (London Univ) J Andrews (Nottingham Univ) A Tricky (Imperial Coll) S Welch (Bristol Univ) **Lightweight single scull:** S Watts (London Univ). **Lightweight double scull:** M Stevens (Kingston), K Holton (Evesham)

Ear-splitting chunk of history at unholy price

SIMON BARNES



On Saturday

A MANHATTAN commodities broker has secured the bargain of his life, the ultimate piece of sporting memorabilia, for just a trifle more than $18,000 (about £10,900). Yes, Pete Stevens, 30, is now the proud owner of a chunk of Evander Holyfield's ear. Stevens bought the priceless object from an MGM security guard, who, he believes, stole it from Holyfield's dressing-room during the chaos after the World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight title fight against Mike Tyson last month.

Stevens plans to preserve this delightful sporting relic in formaldehyde. A surgeon has confirmed that the bit of gristle appears to match the bit of hole in the post-fight photographs of Holyfield. "I know some people think I'm pretty sick," Stevens said perceptively. "But everybody collects baseball cards and jerseys."

Penalty glut

The penalty shoot-out, which forever will be remembered as the device that destroyed tournament football, reached new levels of absurdity in a season-opener in South Africa. After both semi-finals, Kaizer Chiefs v Sundowns and Orlando Pirates v Moroka Swallows, had been settled by penalties, the Pirates and the Chiefs fought out a 0-0 draw. It took 30 penalties before the sides could be separated, the Pirates finally winning 10-9.

Fugitive coach

The coach of a Ukrainian premier league football club has done a Lord Lucan. Yuri Pohrebnya, of Metalurg Mariupol, vanished after allegedly leading a mob in an assault on a referee and a linesman. He has been banned from football for life, is wanted by the police and has disappeared. Special police units were dispatched to Luhansk after reports of Pohrebnya sightings, but they failed to find their man. The alleged beating took place after Mariupol lost 5-2. After three games, they have no points and have conceded 15 goals.

Radar fastball

And now a delightful new bit of sporting gimmickry: a baseball that knows how fast it has been thrown. Rawling Sporting Goods hopes to have the Radar Ball on the market in the new year. It is a baseball that incorporates a small digital display. To make it work properly, you must throw it to a catcher placed at the correct baseballing distance of 60ft 6in. A device measures the time elapsed between release and catch and converts that into miles per hour. The toy is a snip at something less than $40 (about £24) — compared with $1,000 (about £605) for a radar speed-gun. You're not supposed to hit it with a bat, but it will survive a reasonable amount of hammering from wild pitches and fast balls. Any chance of bringing out a cricketing version? I would like to see if I can get my floating yorker, famous for its hang-time (not to mention its encrustations of ice), up to about 10mph.

Baseball Speed Police: Do you realise what speed this ball was doing?
Tony Husband

No handicap

Miami Dolphins have just hired Doug Blevins, 33, as part-time assistant coach to work with the kickers. Blevins has cerebral palsy and has never walked. He has previously worked with New England Patriots and New York Jets and is kicking co-ordinator of the World League.

Funny man

Before we can ask such crucial questions as "can we not knock it?", I learn more about the charmingly incomprehensible ways of Graham Taylor, the former England football manager. He picked Gary Parkins, the former editor of Watford's now-defunct fanzine, *Mud, Sweat and Tears*, to play the final 13 minutes of a pre-season friendly at Fakenham. "He said, if he could come on for the last five minutes, he could die happy," Taylor explained. "It appealed to my sense of humour." Perhaps that explains why Alan Smith came on as substitute for Gary Lineker and many other such strange events of the Taylor years.

Ascot in tune

After all the chunder-making attempts to bring rock'n'roll to cricket, Ascot racecourse gets in on the act. Next Friday, there will be a band strutting its stuff after the evening meeting's six races. The Royal College of Music Ascot Orchestra will play "classical favourites and other popular tunes". Don't want to go too highbrow with horse-people, now, do you?

☐ *The Nicolas Feuillatte Shane Warne Fizzometer stands at 12.*

TIMES SATURDAY JULY 26 1997
BUSINESS ROUNDUP
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هكذا في الأصل

TENNIS: WARWICKSHIRE LAND INTER-COUNTY CUP AFTER HOLDERS FAIL TO MEET FINAL CHALLENGE

Shrewd switch of partners nets title

JULIAN MUSCAT

At County Tennis Week

Warwickshire completed a remarkable triumph in the women's inter-county cup yesterday after Essex, the favourites, could not contain an inspired Middlesex VI at Eastbourne. The defending champions thus succumbed to their first group one defeat in five years, allowing Warwickshire to celebrate their first victory in this competition since 1967.

Warwickshire's 8-1 dismissal of relegated Leicestershire meant that they matched Essex with four victories from five matches. However, a superior rubber count swayed the verdict in their favour. It was no less than they deserved. Under the astute and enthusiastic captaincy of Sally Jones, the team improved their performance throughout the week. In the process they negated their opening-day defeat by Essex, and may well have mastered that county had the match been played later in the week.

Jones attributed Warwickshire's slow start to a lack of opportunity to properly assess her players. Doubtless Joanne Moore's parents aspired to greater heights when, ten years ago, they sold the family silver to send their daughter to Nick Bollettieri's academy in Florida. Moore, then 12, has since remained in the United States until she returned to play county week for the first time. Although she started in harness with Tamsin Wainwright, Jones allied her with Leyla Ogan after the first day to telling effect. The new partnership won all 12 of their rubbers.

Initially Jones disturbed Warwickshire's leading pair of Wainwright and Katie Shaw to accommodate Moore. "After the first day it was obvious neither of the two new pairings were working," Jones said, "so we put Joanne with Leyla and they hit it off with each other from the start. It was quite a gamble bringing Joanne back from America. She only came here four days before; she is really a claycourt player but her results speak for themselves."

In the years to come Wainwright, in particular, will remember this victory with a sense of symmetry. Her mother, Janice, was in the winning side 30 years ago — as was Ann Jones, the Wimbledon champion. From Warwickshire's perspective, the crucial rubber of the week was that between Jane Wood and Susheel Gulati, of Middlesex, who bettered Claire Hammond and Zoe Mellis, of Essex, in a 2½-hour marathon.

It could have gone either way: the Middlesex pair reached 3-1 but trailed 3-5 before reeling off the next four games to claim the match 6-7, 6-4, 7-5. That stretched Middlesex's advantage to four rubbers to two, leaving the holders facing a mountain to climb in the concluding three rubbers. In the end they faltered at second base, Hammond and Mellis — doubtless drained after their earlier narrow defeat — succumbing to Jo Ward and Francis Hearn, 2-6, 4-6.

Middlesex will be ruing their 5-4 loss to South Wales on Tuesday — although they were comfortably beaten by the eventual winners on Thursday.

It made for an exciting climax to the competition, with Warwickshire, boasting an excellent team spirit, deserving the plaudits at the end of a gruelling week. Jones made an issue of positive body language, fining her charges 50 pence for every thrown racket. However, her side's spirit was such that Jones will not have got rich on the takings.

With Hampshire having secured the men's competition on Thursday, the spectre of relegation hung heavily over Yorkshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey, the defending champions. Surrey were the first to capitulate, losing 6-3 to Hampshire — and Yorkshire joined them despite defeating Devon 6-3. This was due to a spirited rally from Buckinghamshire, who were without a win after three days. They ended the sequence on Thursday, beating Surrey, and completed their escape act by edging out Berkshire yesterday. Meanwhile, Kent and Lancashire earned promotion from the group two pool played at Southsea.

Yorkshire's women also failed to beat the cut.

Action from Eastbourne yesterday, with players from Middlesex deep in concentration. Photograph: Gill Allen

Results, page 45

CYCLING

Voskamp ruled out when push comes to shove

FROM JEREMY WHITTLE IN DIJON

THE Tour de France descended into farce here yesterday when the finish of the nineteenth stage was decided by a four-man race jury after a weary and ill-tempered sprint between Jens Heppner, of Germany, and Bart Voskamp, of Holland.

Voskamp, who was first to cross the line, and Heppner, of the Telekom team of Jan Ullrich, the race leader, were declassified after a clumsy but hair-raising shoving match.

The jury of four awarded the win to Mario Traversoni, of Italy, who crossed the line in third place, half a minute behind Voskamp.

Even then, the result took a further hour and a half to be confirmed and contained another surprise. Behind closed doors, the jury studied Voskamp's appeal against the declassification — the third of a Tour stage-winner in 14 days of racing — which was thought to be supported by the race director, Jean-Marie Leblanc.

But, as the riders boarded a train for Paris, it was announced that the result stood, and that Voskamp's TVM team-mate, Peter Van Petegem, was also declassified for his riding in the sprint for third place, won by Traversoni.

Voskamp and Heppner had slipped clear from an early breakaway of 14 riders as the race crossed into the Côte d'Or region of Bourgogne on the 172-kilometre leg to Dijon. With a half-minute lead on their erstwhile companions as they sped into the final kilometre, it was clear that the stage victory would be fought out between them.

But both riders lack experience of sprinting and it was a panicking Voskamp who jumped for the line first, with Heppner struggling to follow. Then as the slightly uphill finish told, and the Dutchman began to slow, Heppner came alongside his shoulder and the pair made contact. With Voskamp leaning into the German, Heppner acrobatically used his head to push back into the 28-year-old as the front of his bike came perilously close to sliding from underneath him. It was enough to slow down Voskamp, but with Heppner still pushing into him, the Dutchman edged ahead to cross the line first.

Traversoni, 25, was surprised to find that he had won his first stage in the Tour de France. "I can't say that this feels the same as winning the usual way, with your arms in the air, ahead of the whole field," he said. "But in a few years' time all people will remember is that my name went into the Tour record books."

Traversoni: surprise win

Voskamp was nonplussed. "It's crazy," he said. "I deviate two centimetres from my line and they disqualify me. After the finish, I was sure I'd won. It's unbelievable. There are four commissaires who turned the Tour into a joke. I'm going to talk to the other riders about protesting against this."

Meanwhile, Ullrich, of Germany, is now assured of victory and today's long time trial at Disneyland-Paris is unlikely to see him concede time to second-placed Richard Virenque, of France.

Results, page 45

FOOTBALL

Ferdinand deal helps to lift gloom for Francis

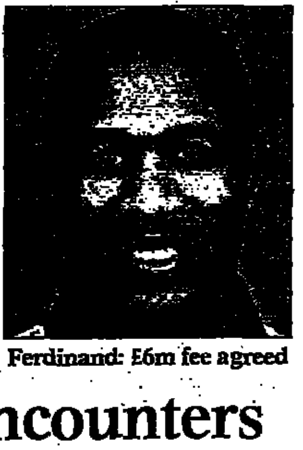
BY BRIAN GLANVILLE AND DAVID MADDOCK

GERRY FRANCIS, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, is "quietly confident" of signing Les Ferdinand from Newcastle United for £6 million on a four-year contract tomorrow. He will then fly abroad, pursuing his quest for at least two more new players. "I'd possibly like to find this Hawaiian inside forward — I'd watch him for a year," he joked at the Tottenham training ground yesterday.

The prospect of a reunion with Ferdinand, with whom he worked so well at Queens Park Rangers, has obviously cheered Francis. Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, may well be left reflecting, however, on the fact that the North East club's flotation plans have forced him to split up the most potent strike force in the FA Carling Premiership last season.

Dalglish said: "I suppose you could say it is more a financial decision than a footballing one. It was good business for the plc and that is an important factor. From my own point of view, I would be delighted if Les goes down to Spurs, talks to them, and then comes back to us to say that he wants to stay with us. The club would be delighted if he wants to stay as well."

Ferdinand, though, was already resigned to leaving the North East and said: "I just wish Newcastle all the best for the coming season. They have been good to me during my time on Tyneside and I can honestly say I've had a great time up here. I don't feel guilty, but I do feel saddened about leaving, because the fans have been superb. I am trying to understand the move from the point of view of the plc. It is no longer Newcastle United Football Club, it is Newcastle United plc, and that had a lot to do with it."



Ferdinand: £6m fee agreed

Francis regards as "harsh" the recent criticism, from what he regards as a minority of otherwise fervent Tottenham supporters, that stars would not join the club and he clearly hopes that Ferdinand will be the jewel in the crown.

The forward will be linking up again with David Ginola, Tottenham's other recent acquisition from St James' Park. "They impressed me. They had a very good understanding and were instrumental in Newcastle nearly winning the title," Francis said.

Newcastle, meanwhile, completed the £4.3 million transfer of Alessandro Pistone, the Internazionale defender, who signed a four-year contract yesterday.

Celtic followed the £2.5 million signing of Craig Burley from Chelsea yesterday by welcoming Henrik Larsson, the Sweden striker, to Celtic Park. Larsson, 25, is believed to have cost £650,000 after a Dutch court ruled in his favour and allowed him to leave Feyenoord for a limited transfer fee. He has signed a three-year contract.

Brian Deane is expected to rejoin Sheffield United next week after they agreed an undisclosed fee, thought to be around £1 million, with Leeds United, while José Maria Bakero, the former Barcelona and Spain captain, was told yesterday that he will not be given a contract at Middlesbrough after his three-week trial there. Bakero, 33, played and scored in three games, but Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, said: "He is an attacking midfield player and that's not the type we're looking for."

Kendall encounters stern opposition

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

HOWARD KENDALL will have a clearer understanding of the task facing him at Everton when he begins his third spell in charge of the Merseyside club as they host the Umbro Tournament this weekend.

Everton meet Ajax today after Newcastle United take on the FA Cup winners, Chelsea, in the opening game of the competition. The winners of both games meet in the final tomorrow after a third-fourth place play-off and the two matches will provide Kendall with the ideal opportunity to gauge his squad against top-class opposition.

The Everton manager said: "In terms of opposition, the competition couldn't be any stronger. In fact, it's probably one of the strongest preseason tournaments there has been in this country.

"It's going to be a case of using the full squad of players, but having said that we still want to do well. People will have to understand that there are two games in two days, and I think the other managers involved will be doing exactly the same."

Kendall's squad includes the England full back, Andy Hinchcliffe, who could make his first appearance since suffering a cruciate ligament injury last December.

Ajax are also rebuilding under Morten Olsen, newly installed as coach after Luis van Gaal's defection to Barcelona.

The Dutch side reached the semi-finals of the Champions' League last season, but their home dominance slipped and they finished fourth behind champions PSV Eindhoven.

Olsen has already made a clutch of new signings, including Danish compatriot Michael Laudrup from Japanese club, Vissel Kobe.

Chelsea have ruled out no fewer than nine of their squad — including the newcomers, Celestine Babayaro and Bernard Lambourde — but their manager, Ruud Gullit, said that he may make a return to action this weekend.

RUGBY LEAGUE: AUCKLAND RUN IN 12 TRIES TO BELIE THEIR DOMESTIC FORM

St Helens left to hail Warriors' pace

Auckland Warriors	70
St Helens	6

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AUCKLAND Warriors entered the world club championship with apparently fewer credentials than St Helens. Their mockery of the European champions yesterday has put them in pole position for a home quarter-final and may deny St Helens a place in the knockout stages.

It was Auckland's second stylish rout in six days, even more emphatic than the 50-point margin by which they beat Bradford Bulls. In contrast to their battling defeat on Monday at Cronulla, the English outfit offered pitifully little resistance to the dozen tries trotted in by the bottom-placed Australasian Super League side.

Far from having learnt from the home-leg defeat last month, St Helens looked to have gone backwards, which angered Shaun McRae, their coach. "It's games like that that make you think why you're in the profession," McRae said. "I'm embarrassed, the club's embarrassed, the players are embarrassed. Saints are a better side than that, but people will remember what happened tonight and it will take a lot of soul-searching to try and get over it."

Auckland have nothing to gain domestically and, now that the world championship final, on October 18, has been switched to their ground, they are intent on making a reputation. Their points record was broken for a third successive match, undoing St Helens with their pace and potency.

The deluge for St Helens began after 28 seconds, when Hoppe scored the first of his two tries, after a dropped ball by Pickavance, a recurring theme in a dismal display. Within the first 15 minutes, Eru, again with the first of two tries, and Ngamu had left St Helens hopelessly adrift.

Betts and Ngamu scored from penalties for offside and the place-kicking of Ridge, who landed 11 of 13 attempts, added to the punishment. A try by Hunte at the start of the second half only provided an interruption, as Oudenryn scored one of two tries in ten minutes. The damage was completed by the electrifying finishing of Jones, Ellis and Ngamu, with his third.

Warrington are unlikely to win at Cronulla today, but if they can restrict the margin of defeat, they would be best-placed to qualify for the quarter-final domestic play-off place in European Pool A.

SCORERS: Auckland: Tries: Ngamu (3), Eru (2), Hoppe (2), Oudenryn (2), Betts, Ellis, Jones. Goals: Ridge (11). St Helens: Try: Hunte. Goal: Goulding.

AUCKLAND WARRIORS: M Ridge; S Hoppe, A Swann, S Endacott, L Oudenryn, G Ngamu, S Jones; S Malam, S Eru, J Vagana, S Kearney, D Betts, L Swann. Substitutes: M Horo, M Ellis, B Henare, A Guttenbeil

ST HELENS: S Prescott, D Arnold, A Hunte, P Newlove, A Sullivan, S Long, R Goulding; A Leathem, K Cunningham, J O'Neill, I Pickavance, V Matautia, K Hammond. Substitutes: D McVey, A Haigh, C Morley, P Anderson

Referee: S Clark (Sydney)

Bentley faces Raiders' might

THREE weeks after his exploits for the British Isles in South Africa, John Bentley swaps codes on his return tomorrow to the Halifax Blue Sox side for the visit of Canberra Raiders in the world club championship (Christopher Irvine writes).

Bentley's first game of rugby league for 11 months will provide a fearsome reintroduction. Halifax were beaten 70-6 in the first match and Canberra will be anxious to atone for their surprise defeat on Monday at London Broncos.

Two training sessions represent scant preparation. "I haven't played league since last August, but it's a far easier game to adapt to, coming from rugby union rather than the other way. So I don't anticipate problems," the wing said.

Bentley was contracted for the summer to Halifax, but released for the Lions tour and to play for England in the one-off international in Australia a fortnight ago. He is due to rejoin Newcastle, his union club, when the Stones Super League finishes at the end of next month. Bentley scored 22 tries in 21 appearances last season.

London meet Brisbane Broncos at the Stoop memorial ground tomorrow night in buoyant mood after their 38-18 defeat of Canberra, the biggest achievement in the club's short history. Moreover, they have agreed a new two-year deal with Tony Currie, their coach.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Fourth Cornhill Test match
11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum
HEADINGLEY: England v Australia

Tour match
11.0, third day of four
HOVE: Sussex v Pakistan A

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Worcestershire
CHELTENHAM: Gloucestershire v Durham
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Lancashire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Surrey

11.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Somerset

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Umbro International tournament
Everton v Ajax (2.0)
Newcastle v Chelsea (4.0)
(both at Goodison Park)

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Berwick v Clydebank; Birmingham v Derby; Bournemouth v Wimbledon, Celtic v Parma, Dunfermline v Coventry; FC Kaiserslautern v Southampton; Hearts v Rangers; Hull v Huddersfield; Macclesfield v Sunderland; Millwall v Crystal Palace; Scarborough v Bradford, Shrewsbury v Northampton, *Stranraer v Raith*; Swindon v Tottenham Hotspur, West Bromwich Albion v Blackburn; Motherwell v Aston Villa.

RUGBY LEAGUE

World club championship
Pool A
Cronulla v Warrington (10.30am)

RUGBY UNION

Rory Underwood celebration
International XV 84-97 v French XV 84-94 (2.15)
Leicester v British Isles Inv XV (4.0)
(both at Leicester)

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: National track championships (Manchester, 2.0); National 24hr time trial championship (Farncor, 2.0)

GOLF: Senior British Open (at Royal Portrush)

HOCKEY: Women's under-21 international match: Holland v England (in Rotterdam, 2.0)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Coventry v Ipswich (7.30); Swindon v Belle Vue (7.30). Premier League: Arena Essex v Edinburgh (8.0); Berwick v Oxford (6.30); Stoke v Reading (7.30). Amateur League: Berwick v Oxford (8.0)

TENNIS: Northern Electric International Open (in Jesmond); European under-16 championships (in Hatfield).

Tomorrow

CRICKET

Fourth Cornhill Test match
11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum
HEADINGLEY: England v Australia

Tour match
11.0, final day of four
HOVE: Sussex v Pakistan A

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Somerset

Axa Life League
2.0, 40 overs
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Worcestershire
CHELTENHAM: Gloucestershire v Durham
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Lancashire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Kent
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Surrey

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): Torquay: Devon v Berkshire. Colwall: Herefordshire v Shropshire. Shenley Park: Hertfordshire v Bedfordshire. Lakenham: Norfolk v Cumberland. Thame: Oxfordshire v Wiltshire. Ransomes, Ipswich: Suffolk v Buckinghamshire. Pontypridd: Wales v Cheshire

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
World club championship
Pool A
Halifax v Canberra
London v Brisbane (6.35)

Pool B
Hunter v Paris (5.30)
Perth v Castleford (7.30)
Salford v North Queensland

Divisional Premiership
Cumbria pool
Carlisle v Barrow
Whitehaven v Lancashire Lynx (3.30)

East Yorkshire pool
Hull v Wakefield
(at Boothferry Park, 3.15)
York v Featherstone

Lancashire pool
Keighley v Widnes
Rochdale v Swinton

West Yorkshire pool
Dewsbury v Bramley
Huddersfield v Batley (3.30)

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Umbro international tournament
Third place play-off (2.0)
Final (4.0)
(both at Goodison Park)

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: American Bowl: Chicago Bears v Pittsburgh Steelers (in Dublin, 6.0)

GOLF: Senior British Open (at Royal Portrush)

HOCKEY: Representative match: England under-21 v Southgate (at Milton Keynes, 2.30). Women's under-21 international match. Holland v England (in Rotterdam, 1.0)

MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship (at Mallory Park)

SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Eastbourne v Swindon (3.30). Premier League: Glasgow v Reading (6.30). Newcastle v Oxford (6.30); Newport v Hull (2.30). Amateur League: Lathallan v Oxford (1.0).

TENNIS: Northern Electric International Open (in Jesmond); European under-16 championships (in Hatfield).

GOLF

Pack led by Ratcliffe as Barnes bows out

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

NOEL RATCLIFFE, known as The Rat, even to his friends, was leading the pack after the second round of the Senior British Open at Royal Portrush yesterday, but Brian Barnes, the defending champion, was forced to abandon ship after struggling to complete the course.

Barnes had to have a tetanus injection on Thursday night when it was discovered that he was allergic to the strapping on his injured left knee, and when the bandage was removed the danger of infection added to his problems.

The big Anglo-Scot did well to stagger round in 75 for a total of 146, but, in trying to favour his knee, he started feeling pain in his right hip and was advised to withdraw and recuperate properly.

Ratcliffe, a lean Australian who has won two of his past three tournaments, equalled the championship record with a round of 65, seven under par, that was packed with nine birdies. His total of 135, nine under, left him three shots ahead of the South African duo of John Bland and Gary Player.

One of the best rounds of a changeable day was a 68 by Brian Waites, one of the early starters who got the worst of the weather, including torrential rain. "The last six holes were a nightmare," Waites, who played them in level par, said.

The most erratic round was the 74 by Liam Higgins, of Ireland. Five under par for the championship after an eagle three at the ninth, he dropped two shots at the short 11th and took a nine, which included three penalty shots, at the next, a 389-yard par-four. Undaunted, Higgins had a birdie two at the 14th and an eagle three at the 17th.

EARLY SECOND-ROUND LEADERS (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 135: N Ratcliffe (Aus) 70, 65. 138: J Bland (SA) 66, 72; G Player (SA) 68, 70. 139: D Eichelberger (US) 68, 71. 141: B Waites 73, 68; B Verwey (SA) 71, 70; T Wargo (US) 71, 70; B Hunt 70, 71. 143: T Horton 71, 72; R Vucinich (US) 72, 71; L Higgins 69, 74. 144: B Huggett 73, 71; N Coles 72, 72; A Garrido (Sp) 72, 72; C Evans (US) 69, 75; G Parkhill 71, 73. 146: L Monroe (US) 72, 73; J Morgan 74, 71; M Bembridge 73, 72; W Hall (US) 75, 70; D Dalzell (US) 69, 76; J Hudson 69, 76; G Burroughs 69, 76; C Cook (US) 74, 71; B Barnes 70, 75

هكذا في الأصل

MOTOR RACING 46
Berger finally gives way to the boy racers

SPORT

TENNIS 47
Warwickshire take county title as Essex lose grip

SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

England's fielding lapses hand initiative to Australia on dramatic day at Headingley

Elliott thrives in game of chance

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

HEADINGLEY (second day of five): Australia, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 86 runs ahead of England

THERE were two defining moments on a spectacular, sun-blessed day at Headingley and both went against England. The cumulative effect on them was devastating, potentially far more than their Ashes prospects can withstand.

In mid-morning, with Australia beginning to fret, Michael Atherton, the rock of England, was out to a top-edged hook. The stroke and its timing will haunt him, for within 47 minutes the remaining five wickets had fallen for a miserable 18 runs. Jason Gillespie, bowling as if in a dream, had taken seven for 37.

All was not yet lost, for Darren Gough, charging in with a venom to drive his home crowd to delirium, sliced the top off the Australia innings. England, however, had no margin for error and when Graham Thorpe spilt a regulation slip catch in Mike Smith's third over in Test cricket, this oscillating game took its most definite turn.

The beneficiary was Matthew Elliott, who had scored 29. As Steve Waugh fell to the next ball, Australia could and should have been 50 for five in response to 172. Instead, the reprieved Elliott made his second century of the series, Ricky Ponting marked his comeback with a glittering 86 not out and Australia moved ahead without further loss. By the close, Elliott and Ponting had put on 208 and were scoring runs at will against bowling that had run dry of ideas and conviction.

Astonishingly, 11 wickets fell in the first half of the day and none in the second. The dichotomy can partly be explained by conditions, for the pitch, though its bounce was less than true, had dried and paled under warm sunshine and the ball not only ceased to move off the seam but begrudged any semblance of swing for Smith. But it was also symptomatic of one team cashing in on its luck, while the other bemoaned its carelessness.

Some of England's cricket was very careless, especially within the mad minutes that exemplified their dependence on the captain. So long as Atherton was present, England could aspire to a total of 350 and control of the match. Once he was gone, they were plainly struggling to reach 200 and facing a scrap for survival.

This did not sit logically with the opening 40 minutes, during which Dean Headley so enjoyed his nightwatchman brief that he had begun to look like a proper batsman. He had made 22, out of 32 added, when he launched something overambitious at Gillespie's first ball of the morning. Steve Waugh clutched the overhead catch at gully.

Here was the ultimate case of a bowler beginning as he meant to continue. Gillespie, continuing unchanged from the Kirkstall Lane End, was a constant menace, his line impeccable and his ability to move the ball away from the right-handers compelling. In 47 balls, he took six wickets for 23 and the figures did not flatter him.

By contrast, Glenn McGrath was a shadow of his usual self. He is not the first seam bowler to be disorientated by the contours of Headingley's approaches and had just bowled five wayward balls to Atherton when he completed the over with a bouncer of lasting significance.

Atherton has acquired ample runs by pulling and hooking down the years, but this shot was misapplied. Gillespie did not need to move at fine leg to take a gentle catch and, exceptionally though Atherton had played for almost four hours, he will count it as a lost opportunity.

However, he could not have imagined what was to follow. Nobody could. Indeed, when the innings ended, six minutes before the scheduled lunch interval, there was an air of bewilderment around the ground. Atherton's departure devolved senior responsibilities upon Thorpe. One would not have known it. True, he had pulled two short balls from Gillespie for four, but his compulsion for the shot sometimes distorts his judgment. An attempted repeat was casual, the ball cramping him, and he chopped onto off stump.

Gillespie took all the last five wickets to fall and if that of John Crawley was the most important it was also the most fortuitous. Gillespie had Greg Blewett to thank for staying low and still at short leg as Crawley turned the ball firmly towards him. The luck came from the shot cannoning off Blewett's toe; the skill was in the fielder grabbing it.

It did not take Gillespie long to work over Robert Croft, yet again turning a lifting ball to the shrewdly set leg gully, and the gladiatorial welcome for Gough the batsman was about as merited as usual. He lasted two balls, the same duration as Smith's debut innings.

England needed to strike back fast and did so, Gough having Mark Taylor caught off his glove as he ducked a bouncer. Taylor has made four runs in his past four Test innings and has only one score exceeding 50 — his Edgbaston century — in 26. Now, though, he is in charge of a team on the move and the pressure is off.

Blewett drove at a ball from Gough he might judiciously have left alone, the ninth wicket to fall in 100 minutes of cricket, and when Mark Waugh pushed a return catch to Headley with the total at 43, the crowd was on its feet, belief seeping back.

The miss by Thorpe, a head-high chance that seemed to catch him unawares, might have been forgotten when Steve Waugh was taken at short leg, his first Test dismissal on this ground. Elliott, however, ensured that there could be no easy redemption.

As in his previous hundred at Lord's, his batting was not unblemished but he has that great ability to ignore the previous ball and, often, hit the next for four. He was missed twice more, once by Atherton at gully on 63 and then, in the penultimate over of England's hangdog evening, by Smith at long leg. If Smith felt remorse, he had equal reason to feel his day, and England's, could have ended very differently.

Lynne Truss 44
Kent edge through 44
Essex in control 45
County scoreboards 45

SCOREBOARD FROM HEADINGLEY

Australia won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

M A Butcher c Blewett b Reiffel (61min, 57 balls, 2 fours)	24
*M A Atherton c Gillespie b McGrath (225min, 143 balls, 6 fours)	41
†A J Stewart c Blewett b Gillespie (27min, 24 balls)	7
N Hussain c Taylor b McGrath (56min, 40 balls, 4 fours)	26
D W Headley c S R Waugh b Gillespie (49min, 32 balls, 2 fours)	22
G P Thorpe b Gillespie (30min, 26 balls, 3 fours)	15
J P Crawley c Blewett b Gillespie (22min, 13 balls)	2
M A Ealham not out (40min, 24 balls)	8
R D B Croft c Ponting b Gillespie (11min, 8 balls, 1 four)	6
D Gough b Gillespie (6min, 2 balls)	0
A M Smith b Gillespie (2min, 2 balls)	0
Extras (b 4, lb 4, w 1, nb 12)	21
Total (53.4 overs, 270min)	172

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-43 (Atherton 10), 2-58 (Atherton 16), 3-103 (Atherton 32), 4-138 (Atherton 41), 5-154 (Thorpe 15), 6-154 (Crawley 0), 7-163 (Ealham 6), 8-172 (Ealham 8), 9-172 (Ealham 8)

BOWLING: McGrath 22-5-67-2 (nb 3, w 1, 9 fours, 7-0-25-0, 10-3-38-1, 5-3-4-1) Reiffel 20-4-41-1 (nb 9, 2 fours, 6-1-10-0, 7-1-15-1, 7-2-16-0). Gillespie 13.4-1-37-7 (nb 1, 4 fours, 6-0-14-1, 7.4-1-23-6) Blewett 3-0-17-0 (3 fours, one spell) Warne 1-0-2-0

SCORING NOTES: Third day: Lunch: 172 all out

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

*M A Taylor c Stewart b Gough (10min, 11 balls)	0
M T G Elliott not out (275min, 233 balls, 3 sixes, 17 fours)	134
G S Blewett c Stewart b Gough (15min, 8 balls)	1
M E Waugh c and b Headley (30min, 18 balls, 1 four)	8
S R Waugh c Crawley b Headley (15min, 12 balls)	4
R T Ponting not out (201min, 142 balls, 1 six, 11 fours)	86
Extras (b 3, lb 2, nb 20)	25
Total (4 wkts, 67 overs, 275min)	258

†I A Healy, S K Warne, J N Gillespie, P R Reiffel and G D McGrath to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0 (Elliott 0), 2-16 (Elliott 12), 3-43 (Elliott 27), 4-50 (Elliott 29)

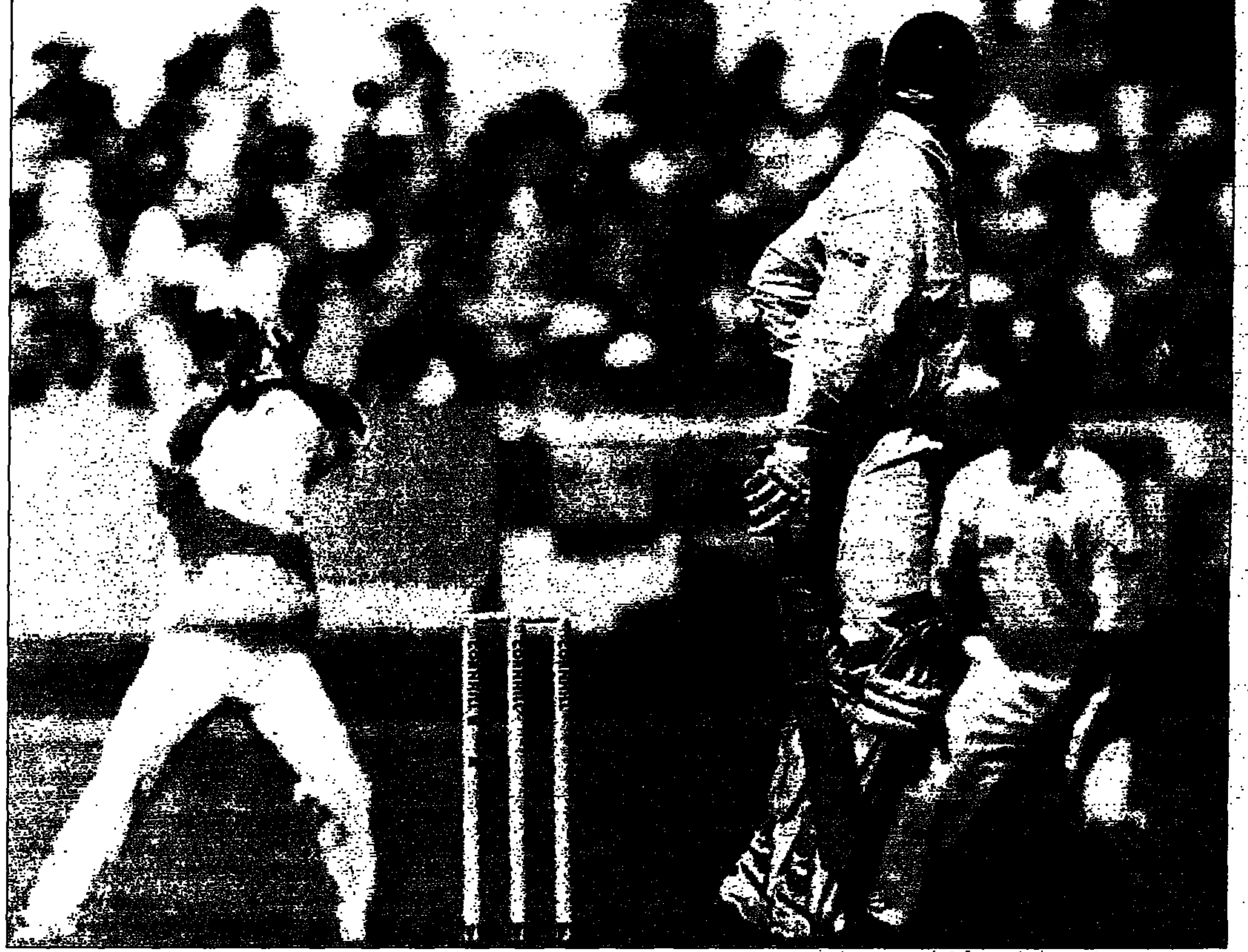
BOWLING: Gough 19-4-65-2 (nb 4, 9 fours, 6-3-10-2, 3-0-13-0, 5-0-25-0, 5-1-17-0), Headley 15-1-66-2 (nb 8, 2 sixes, 7 fours, 10-1-43-2, 3-0-13-0, 2-0-10-0) Smith 13-1-55-0 (nb 4, 1 six, 8 fours, 8-1-28-0, 2-0-10-0, 3-0-17-0) Ealham 6-3-15-0 (2 fours, 2-1-8-0, 4-2-7-0). Croft 12-0-38-0 (1 six, 2 fours, 2-0-11-0, 2-0-2-0, 7-0-24-0, 1-0-1-0), Butcher 2-0-14-0 (nb 6, 1 four, one spell)

SCORING NOTES: Third day: Tea: 114-4 (31 overs, 129min Elliott 65, Ponting 25)

Umpires: M J Kitchen and C J Mitchley (South Africa) Third umpire: R Julian Match referee: C W Smith (West Indies)

SERIES DETAILS: First (Edgbaston): England won by nine wickets Second (Lord's) match drawn Third (Old Trafford): Australia won by 268 runs To come: Fifth (Trent Bridge) August 7-11 Sixth (The Oval) August 21-25

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*



Elliott looks back anxiously as an edge flies to Thorpe at first slip. The chance went down and Australia took control. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Gillespie remains an unknown quantity

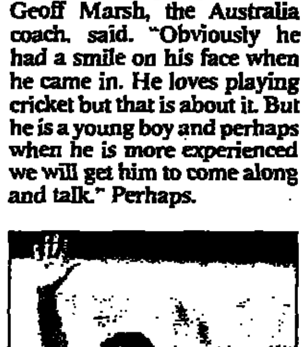
By Simon Wilde

EXACTLY who is Jason Gillespie? That is the question which the England players were privately asking themselves after they had felt the heat of another of his "hot streaks" yesterday. It was Gillespie, remember, who triggered their second-innings collapse at Old Trafford, when he claimed the wickets of Atherton, Hussain and Butcher in the space of 20 minutes.

Whoever he is, he bowls fast and very well. In taking six wickets in the space of 47 balls yesterday morning he reaped the sort of havoc of which every fast bowler dreams but few achieve at Test level. Spurred by claiming the wicket of Headley, the nightwatchman, with his first ball of the day, he upped his pace and finished with the best figures achieved for Australia at Headingley.

Before yesterday, the best-known thing about Gillespie was his spectacular unwillingness to communicate. He rarely gives interviews and even those who spend time close to him have failed to melt the ice. "He's either very simple or very complex," an Australian journalist, who is following the tour, said. "We've never managed to find out which."

On the greatest day of his short career, the press conference last night went on without him. "Unfortunately, Jason is a very shy person," Geoff Marsh, the Australia coach, said. "Obviously he had a smile on his face when he came in. He loves playing cricket but that is about it. But he is a young boy and perhaps when he is more experienced we will get him to come along and talk." Perhaps.



Gillespie: independent

Gillespie's other features are a strange haircut and a liking — increasingly common among international bowlers — for wearing earrings. When he was called up at the World Cup last year as a replacement for Craig McDermott he sported a pony-tail.

A man with an independent streak then, content in his own world and feeling little need to share it with others: classic fast bowler material. Colin Croft, the Guyanan, was hewn from similar rock and he freaked out a few batsmen in his time, proving that the weirder you are, the more worried the man at the other end is likely to become.

Thorpe was roused to take on Gillespie, twice whipping short balls through midwicket, but, in attempting to repeat the stroke to a delivery of fuller length, had his stumps smashed. It was a brief and enthralling duel, and one Thorpe lost. Perhaps he was still thinking about it when he stood at slip and dropped Elliott. One of the strangest things about Gillespie is that he lives in Adelaide. This is perhaps the pleasantest, and sleepiest, city in Australia. It is the place to which Sir Donald Bradman fled 60 years ago to find peace from the backbiting in New South Wales cricket and he has lived there ever since. It is a place youngsters leave at the first opportunity — except for Gillespie, who is 22 — his girlfriend and their children, Star and Sapphire.

Strange, also, because the Adelaide Oval is one of the last places on which a fast bowler would want to make his way in the world, save for the fact that the cricket academy, which Gillespie attended, is also based in the city.

Historically, most of South Australia's best cricketers have been batsmen or slow bowlers. The only top-class modern fast bowler the state has produced is Rodney Hogg, whose Test career was brilliant but short. Gillespie, who first broke into the Australia Test side nine months ago, promises to last a little longer at the top. Dennis Lillee believes Gillespie has the ability to go on and take more than 200 Test wickets. If he does, by then the world should know a little more about him.

Hogan's relentless practice earned him nine major titles

Hogan revered as major force

By Patricia Davies

BEN HOGAN, who died yesterday at the age of 84, was one of those rare men held in awe by his peers, not just because of his golfing achievements, but because of the aura of mystery that surrounded him in his later, increasingly reclusive years.

It is rare to come across a photograph of Hogan, the Texan who turned practising into the *sine qua non* of success and made Calvin Coolidge sound loquacious, with a smile on his face. They do exist, but the public persona was usually stern and serious. The Scots called him "the wee ice mon" when he won the Open Championship at Carnoustie at his first and only attempt, in 1953, the year in which he also won the Masters and the US Open.

There was no chance of the grand slam because, in those days of more leisurely travelling, Hogan could not return from Scotland in time for the US PGA Championship. In any case, it was unlikely that his battered legs, injured in the car crash that nearly killed him and his wife, Valerie, in 1949, would have coped with the daily two rounds of matchplay that the championship demanded then.

That Open Championship was the last major title that Hogan won and his competitive edge was eventually blunted by the putting yips. His dedication and determination, though, were legendary and he was a hero to golfers everywhere. Gary Player, the South African who matched the American's tally of nine major championship victories and is one of the quartet of men — Hogan, Gene Sarazen and Jack Nicklaus are the others — to have won all four major championships, said: "I played with Mr Hogan in my first US Open ever in 1958. He was a man of very, very few words and after we'd played the first 36 holes together, I was sitting in the locker-room when I felt a tap on my shoulder.

"It was Mr Hogan. They called him 'The Hawk' because of the look in his eyes and he looked at me and said: 'Son, you're going to be a great player'. I nearly fell off my seat. Then, as he was leaving, he turned and said: 'Do you practise hard?' I said: 'Yes', and he said: 'Double it', and walked away. He always dressed impeccably and behaved extremely well. He had a great life and set a great example on the work ethic."

In his early days as a professional, Hogan struggled, barely scraping together enough to keep body and soul together. He also had to fight a destructive hook and spent hours disciplining himself to hit the ball with a controlled fade — the complete opposite of his natural tendency.

A few years ago, Nick Faldo, another obsessive seeker after perfection, was granted an audience with Hogan in Fort Worth and Bob Torrance, father and coach of Sam, was similarly honoured. They were entranced, but neither Faldo nor Torrance senior has yet publicly revealed any of the master's revelations. That is the sort of magnetic pull the man had.

Other players would stop what they were doing to watch Hogan hit balls. When the American professional, Tommy Bolt, was asked if Nicklaus was the greatest player ever, his reply was sharp and to the point. "I've seen Nicklaus watch Hogan practise. I've never seen Hogan watch Nicklaus practise," he said.

Those who knew the man loved him. Those who did not admired him. What more can any man ask?

Obituary 23

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In the magazine

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SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

The sea is an awesome killer, **Giles Whittell** warns Cowes yachtsmen, as he tells of the biggest storm in memory

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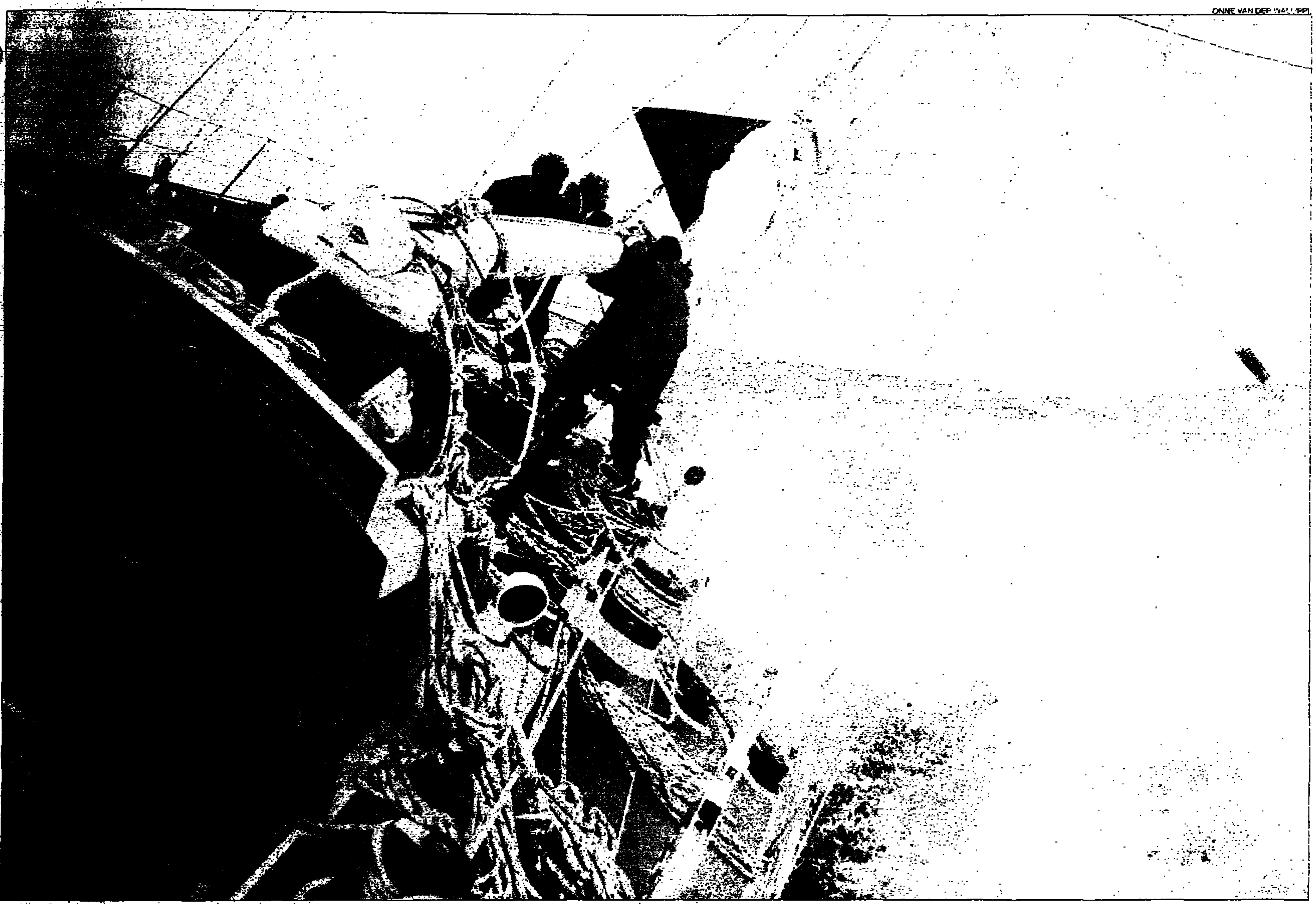

Storm of the century

The danger sets in at Cowes when Britain's braying classes start toasting the day's nautical achievements. Yachtsmen who have survived cresting waves and gale-force winds during the day are sunk by a sea of beer at night. Hardened ladies of the ocean gurgle towards the evening after the gins and tonic begin to hit home.

Only in their cups might the Cowes brigade start singing that mournful old prayer about the brave souls who live off the sea rather than use it as a playground: "O hear us when we cry to thee, For those in peril on the sea." Yet few of them know or understand the true nature of the sea, the terrifying force that can be unleashed when freak weather systems meet to produce destructive power equivalent to the combined nuclear arsenals of the former Soviet Union and the United States.

A story to sober any sailor's thoughts has emerged in the States, however. It concerns a storm considered by experts to be the most violent and unforgiving of the last century, a maelstrom of unimaginable proportions, which went largely unreported because it happened so far from civilisation. Those caught in its path when it struck 3,000 miles to the west of Cowes were doomed.

The danger gathered virtually unnoticed off Newfoundland's Grand Banks, and then it slammed on to the New England coast, against the prevailing westerly wind, for 114 continuous hours.

It was, in a meteorological sense, the perfect storm. And, although it happened six years ago, just before Hallowe'en, only now, with the publication of a book detailing the havoc it caused, is its story being told.

The Hallowe'en Gale struck America's eastern seaboard, from the Carolinas to Nova Scotia, on October 28, 1991. Monstrous seas lashed the coast for four consecutive high tides, destroying beaches, ripping up cobblestones, pulling entire houses out to sea and leaving the parlours of the nicer oceanfront mansions several feet deep in salt water. President Bush's summer home in Kennebunkport was wrecked by waves three-storeys high. The Hudson River, defeated by the onrush of tidal water, backed up 100 miles, causing flooding as far inland as Albany.

Those lucky enough to be on land never saw the half of it. Engulfed by the storm on a band of seething ocean nearly 1,000 miles wide was a ragtag fleet of swordfishing boats hunting a last lucrative catch of the season before racing home to the string of rugged harbours north of Boston, where fishing has been the only real industry in the three and a half centuries since the *Mayflower* dropped anchor.

Cape Ann curves northeast from Boston some 50 miles, ending at a granite point that forms the northern end of Massachussetts Bay, and provides windswept foundations for the low brick-and-clapboard cottages of Gloucester.

Among those who leant into the Hallowe'en Gale to watch its foaming breakers crash on to the rocks around Gloucester's Eastern Point lighthouse was a local writer, Sebastian Junger, young and handsome but not making much money yet. Junger's book on those hellish few days took four years to write, but has been a *New York Times* bestseller since its American publication in May, and is now to be published in England by Fourth Estate. It is called *The Perfect Storm*.

A 10,000-tonne European container ship, the *Contship Holland*, was also caught in the storm. So were two yachts, a 32ft American sloop and an equally modest boat being sailed solo by a Japanese man, *Mikado Tomizawa*. None came through unscathed.

Over two harrowing nights and the intervening day, the entire air-sea rescue capability of eastern America was mobilised to help them. Even so, both yachts sank and a highly trained military rescue swimmer was lost without trace. Most of the swordfishing fleet eventually limped home, but one vessel, the *Andrea Gail*, sank with all hands. And only now have we learnt what really happened in her last, terrifying hours.

The first hint of what was brewing came at dusk on October 27 in a Canadian weather forecast faxed to all shipping within range. A medium-strength hurricane, it stated, was spinning anti-clockwise up the coast from the Carolinas, kept offshore by a vast cold front whose northern end was degenerating into a separate storm over the Great Lakes. At the same time, a frigid high pressure system was moving south from the Canadian Arctic — and turning clockwise.

Supercomputers at the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Maryland predicted that the hurricane and the cold Canadian air would collide like giant gearwheels over the Grand Banks, and that anything caught in their maw would be spat back where it came from with unmeasurable fury.

They were right. The Great Lakes storm blew out over the ocean for 1,000 miles, only to be hurled back at the mainland as a howling three-day nor'easter. Junger calls it "an act of meteorological defiance . . . the meshing of three completely independent weather systems to form a hundred-year event".

The experts back him up. Two meteorologists from the University of Virginia introduced a new storm-ranking system that year especially for nor'easters, and put the Hallowe'en Gale into a class of its own — Class 5 on the Dolan-Davis scale, which a survey in the American journal *Weatherwise* describes as reserved for the kind of mayhem that "may occur on average only once in 100 years or more". From the shore, landlubbers witnessed

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TENNIS 47

Warwickshire take county title as Essex lose grip

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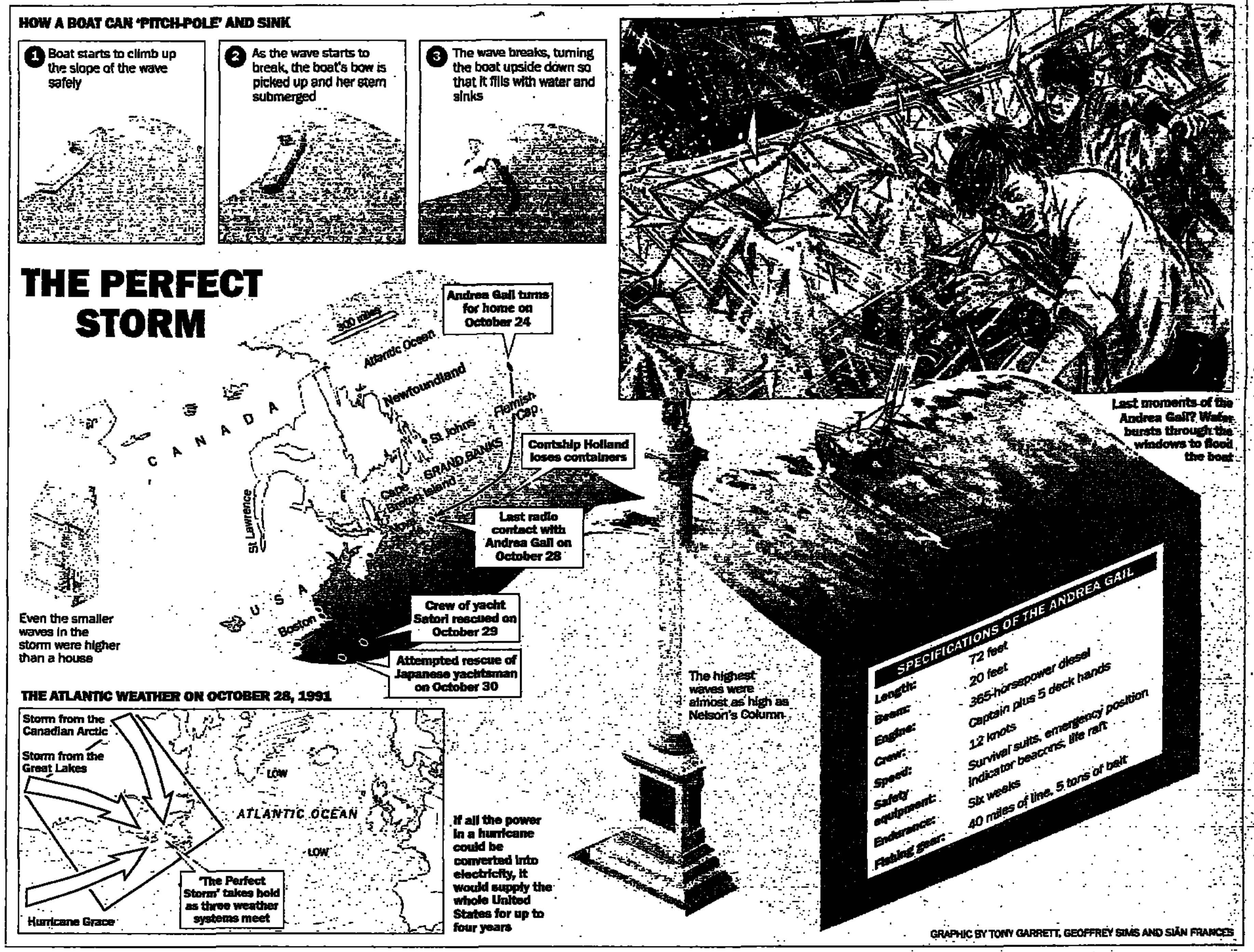
'When he hit the ocean it might as well have been concrete'


HOW A BOAT CAN 'PITCH-POLE' AND SINK
1 Boat starts to climb up the slope of the wave safely
2 As the wave starts to break, the boat's bow is picked up and her stem submerged
3 The wave breaks, turning the boat upside down so that it fills with water and sinks
THE PERFECT STORM
300 miles
Atlantic Ocean
Andrea Gail turns for home on October 24
Newfoundland
Flemish Cap
St Johns
GRAND BANKS
Cape Breton Island
CANADA
St Lawrence
Contship Holland loses containers
Last radio contact with Andrea Gail on October 28
USA
Boston
Crew of yacht Satori rescued on October 29
Attempted rescue of Japanese yachtsman on October 30
Even the smaller waves in the storm were higher than a house
THE ATLANTIC WEATHER ON OCTOBER 28, 1991
Storm from the Canadian Arctic
Storm from the Great Lakes
LOW
ATLANTIC OCEAN
LOW
Hurricane Grace
'The Perfect Storm' takes hold as three weather systems meet
If all the power in a hurricane could be converted into electricity, it would supply the whole United States for up to four years
The highest waves were almost as high as Nelson's Column
Last moments of the Andrea Gail? Water bursts through the windows to flood the boat
SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ANDREA GAIL
Length: 72 feet
Beam: 20 feet
Engine: 365-horsepower diesel
Crew: Captain plus 5 deck hands
Speed: 12 knots
Safety equipment: Survival suits, emergency position indicator beacons, life raft
Endurance: Six weeks
Fishing gear: 40 miles of line, 5 tons of bait

GRAPHIC BY TONY GARRETT, GEOFFREY SIMS AND SIÂN FRANCES

Continued from page 1

the violence of its western fringe. Fifty miles out to sea the terrified crew of the American yacht *Satori* saw a 60ft wave bury their rescuer as he dangled from a long-range helicopter.

Another 400 miles into the storm, a Canadian fisheries observer aboard a Japanese vessel prepared to die in waves cresting almost to the height of Nelson's column.

No one knows how bad it got for the *Andrea Gail*, because she left no survivors and all readings on the NOAA's nearest data buoy went off the scale. Deep-sea commercial swordfishing is dangerous enough in millpond conditions: one slip can drag a man overboard, with a two-inch steel grab-hook through his hand.

The crew of the *Andrea Gail* had left Gloucester in late September, with no way of knowing the weather in store, but plenty else to worry about. It was already late enough in the season for some swordfishing boats to have packed it in for the year. With the nearer Georges Bank fishing grounds trawled practically bare decades ago, the *Gail*'s skipper, Billy Tyne, had no choice but to make the much longer trip to the Grand Banks, which even at the best of times "just happens to sit on one of the most dangerous storm tracks in the world".

Tyne was in command of a strong but not invincible boat: 70ft long with a boxy steel hull, a healthy V8 diesel engine, and winches, hatches, radios, navigation systems and half-inch-thick wheelhouse windows that all met federal safety standards. Its overall shape met no standards, though, except those of boatyards' "eyeball engineering". Extra fuel and water tanks had recently been added high on her deck without a single marine architect's drawing or stability test.

Five other men were entrusting the *Andrea Gail* with their lives, most with heavy hangovers after spending the previous week in Gloucester's bars: all with extreme reluctance. Bobby Shatford, aged 30, badly needed the $5,000 that even a junior swordfisherman can earn in a good month. He had alimony and child support to pay, and a new life to start with his girlfriend, Christine. Even so, sitting morosely with her in the dockside car park on the afternoon the boat left, he had come within a whisker of baleing out.

Arthur Pierre, a Jamaican, had locked himself into a room above the Crow's Nest bar with his girlfriend until minutes before sailing time. Murph, the ship's cook, had told his mother not to bother him about funeral plans, because he was bound to die at sea sooner or later. Bugsy Moran, foul-tempered at not finding a woman during his week ashore, had started brawling with Shatford while loading the boat. Maybe that was why Adam Randall walked off it at the last minute, saying he had a "funny feeling", and did not come back.

The yacht *Satori* was on course for a winter holiday in Bermuda when first knocked flat by the storm. Two days earlier its owner, Ray Leonard, and two hired crew had chugged out of port in New Hampshire. By 11.15 on the night of October 29 the boat was sinking, Leonard was reportedly consoling himself with whisky, one crew member had taped her passport to her stomach so that her body could be identified, and the other was issuing a Mayday call.

Picked up by a freighter, the distress signal was forwarded to the Boston Coast Guard station. Despite the appalling risk to rescuers, a Coast Guard cutter and Falcon jets were dispatched to find the *Satori* and monitor it till dawn. Then an H-3 helicopter, reminiscent of a Vietnam gunship, lifted off from Cape Cod to attempt the impossible.

The US Coast Guard usually rescues stricken boaters by dropping them a man-size basket. The first time the H-3 tried this over the *Satori* a 60ft wave ripped the basket and an accompanying rescue swimmer clean off its cable. The swimmer went under for ten seconds, re-attached the basket and was winched back in. The next time, those on the *Satori* were ordered by VHF radio to abandon ship and wait in the water.

"They dropped him again," a survivor told Junger in one of his book's most eye-popping passages. "He just skimmed over the top of the water, flying towards us. When he gets there he says, 'Hi, I'm Dave Moore, your rescue swimmer, how are you?' It was very cordial."

Jumping into towering walls of water in wetsuits and hurricane-force winds is what rescue swimmers are trained for. Suicide is not, yet this is what appeared to face two more of them aboard another helicopter as the storm roared on into its deadliest night.

An H-6, adapted for mid-air refuelling on rescues hundreds of miles from land, had been scrambled during the afternoon of the 30th to answer a Mayday from the Japanese yachtsman Tomizawa. Finding him rudderless but still afloat in raging seas 250 miles off New Jersey, the pilot, Dave Ruvola, deemed a rescue physically impossible and headed home, leaving Tomizawa to be picked up by a Romanian freighter.

Half-way back to Long Island the H-6 attempted its fourth refuelling in driving rain, 80mph winds and zero visibility. It was, Junger writes, "like throwing darts down a gun barrel; hitting the target is pure dumb luck".

After more than 30 unsuccessful attempts, Ruvola was forced to give up and dive for sea level before his engines flamed out. It was by this time pitch dark. With the helicopter hovering on its final dregs of kerosene, Ruvola's two swimmers and two crew pulled on survival outfits and jumped into a black void, anything from 10ft to 100ft deep, depending on the wave pattern below. They had no way of knowing what they were falling into, but Junger tells us what happened to one of them, John Spillane, aged 32:

"When John Spillane hits the Atlantic Ocean, he is going at about 50 miles an hour ... it might as well have been concrete. Spillane fractures three bones in his right arm, one bone in his left leg, four ribs in his chest; ruptures his kidney and bruises his pancreas."

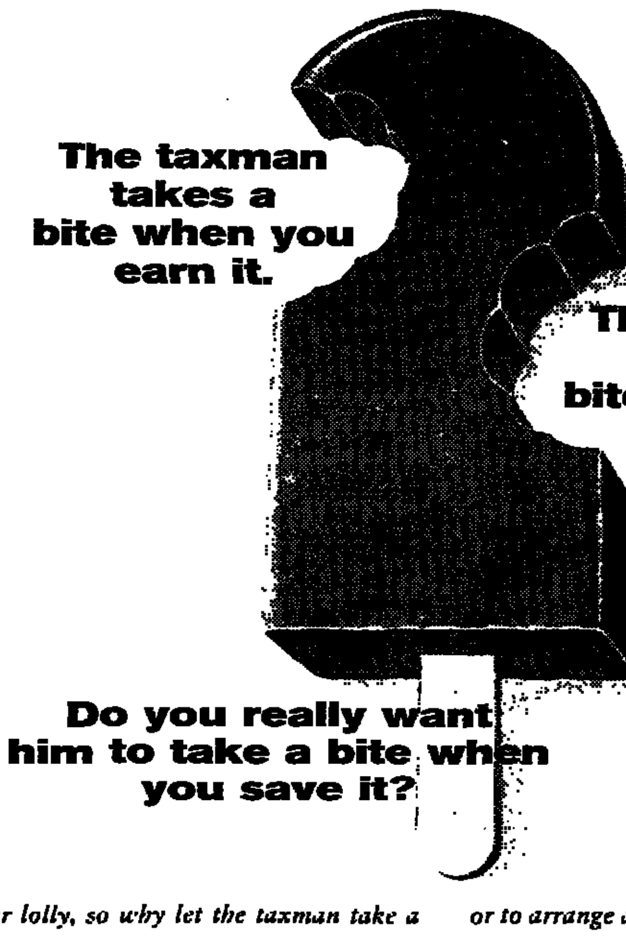
Against the odds, Spillane survived. So did Ruvola, who ditched, out of fuel, in conditions as severe as any encountered by a US military helicopter in peacetime. After fighting his way out of the sinking $8 million machine, he swam towards a strobe flashing on his flight engineer's survival suit. Finding each other alive, he and Spillane floated face up in the hurricane and waited for help. Six aircraft, two ships and 200 personnel were mobilised to rescue the rescuers. By three in the morning, four survivors had been plucked from the maelstrom on a cargo net hung from the side of the Coast Guard cutter *Tamaroa*. The fifth, despite wearing what was effectively a personal liferaft, vanished.

By the morning of the 31st, no one had heard from Billy Tyne and the *Andrea Gail* for more than 48 hours. His last course change had been to the north, apparently for the nearest possible shelter in Nova Scotia or on Cape Breton Island. His last words to the rest of the swordfishing fleet had been pithy and ominous: "She's coming on, boys, and she's coming on strong."

Junger suggests that soon afterwards the doomed boat lost all its radio antennae, and that sometime on the 29th or 30th she was flooded and sunk by waves tearing off her hatches or bursting her windows, and pouring down its chimney stacks, shorting electrical systems and wreathing the vessel in a blaze of sparks. Or by simply "pitch-poling" it end over end, burying it.

There was no word on the *Gail* or its crew for more than a week. Then, on November 7, the *Boston Globe* reported the discovery of her propane tank and fish-net radio beacons 180 miles west of her last known position. A massive search was called off two days later, and St Ann's Church in Gloucester began preparing for a memorial service.

Like Cowes, Cape Ann has its sunny days. On one of them, a couple of weeks ago, I found myself bobbing around in a sailing boat a foot longer than the *Satori*, watching a magnificent parade of racing yachts begin the annual 400-mile dash from Marblehead to Halifax, in Nova Scotia. I wondered idly if the trip would be feasible in the boat we were in. "You could try," said a relative who has sailed off New England for 30 years, "but you'd be mad."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What *will* we wear when the Royal Opera House goes west? **Nick Foulkes** asks

Scene change turns into a costume drama

HULTON GETTY

Covent Garden Thirties style, with opera hat, of course

Getting dressed for a spot of corporate entertainment used to be so easy — bung on a tux, shove a few sparklers around the lady-wife's swan-like and then just sit it out in gilded splendour with the marketing director from Amalgamated Widgets until the 'poo at half-time.

Well, at least that was the way it was before they shut the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and decided to disperse the opera as far as the Barbican, the Shaftesbury Theatre and Labbatt's Apollo, Hammersmith.

"Are we seeing yet another down-grading of the great tradition of the night out at Covent Garden, one of the last bastions where a white tie can be worn?" asks gent's outfitter Jeremy Hackett in one his more apocalyptic moods.

On September 24, the Royal Ballet season opens in salubrious London W6. It will be interesting to see how many fat-cat corporate sponsors brave the Circus Maximus-style traffic which circles Hammersmith Broadway night and day — and, if they do come, how they will deal with the updated Hogarthian attentions of the carjackers, muggers and alcopop-swiggers for which West London is supposedly famed. Besides, given that the cultural heights scaled so far by the Labbatt's Apollo have included an evening of Irish jigs of the Riverdance school, it is unlikely that the management has much experience of handling punters in top hats and tiaras.

Certainly, when the Royal Ballet opens at the Labbatt's Apollo, the dancers will have to struggle by without the presence of Cartier's communication director, Pilar Boxford. When attending the opera or the ballet, Ms Boxford is a vision of feminine elegance. She is of the opinion that it is only appropriate to dress up for such an occasion. "I just feel that it is decent to look quite smart to go to the opera. I feel very sad that everyone goes very relaxed. Opera is quite grand and quite beautiful and you have to look the part."

Her advice is that "you don't change too much from the office. If you have a wool jersey on, all you do is change to a silk top and a nice little Cartier necklace, some earrings, maybe, and then you look smart." Her own ensemble is the essence of simplicity. "I normally wear a sort of suit, a Chanel suit, with a silk shirt underneath, to be able to take the jacket off."

However, while Ms Boxford will certainly be going to the opera when it is at the Shaftesbury Theatre, there are limits — and going to Hammersmith to watch ballet is one of them. After all, she would probably not feel safe wearing *any* jewellery in the underground parking.

John Morgan, the author of *Debrett's New Guide to Etiquette*, agrees with Ms Boxford. "I suspect that if you are trotting down to the Labbatt's in Hammersmith, it would be as well to cut down on the big jewellery."

He does, however, feel it would be a shame if standards were to drop too far. "Things shouldn't change that much in reality. I have been going to the Opera House since the 1960s, when I was a child, and people's dress has been getting less formal. So I think much of it would translate very easily to some of the West End venues. It is only on the gala nights that people wear dinner jackets — but even at the farewell gala not every man was in evening dress."

To be on the safe side, Mr Morgan recommends that men wear a dark blue suit in a fine plain wool, which he describes as the stage down from evening dress. "Performing standards aren't going to drop, we hope, so the audience should do their bit too."

Mr Hackett is less optimistic. "If I were dressing to go to the Labbatt's Apollo, I would probably wear a blazer and grey worsted flannels. Although, I daresay, I could get away with a pair of tracksuit bottoms, pumped up trainers and a bright polo shirt."

It is about performances of the operas at the Barbican that Mr Hackett is most worried. "The Barbican is quite lefty isn't it?" he says in his best Rip van Winkle manner. "In which case, I would have probably thought a more relaxed approach is appropriate: perhaps a button-down shirt, knitted tie — if, of course, lefties wear ties these days — and some sort of unstructured jacket. It could be by Hackett, but is more likely to be Gap or something like that. Trousers will be chinos, worn with deck shoes, probably Timberlands. The ultimate socialist accessory is, of course, a bottle of champagne in the interval."

"One should not get too snobby about the Opera House or the Barbican," says Gabriella di Nora, the head of personal shopping at Selfridges. She will be recommending her customers to stick to their usual outfits: probably something "in a soft fabric, with subtle buttons". However, she adds, if a woman intends to venture out to the Hammersmith Apollo, she should give some serious thought to her shoes.

Ms Di Nora also has a canny tip. Given the fickleness of the weather, she suggests a "smart evening coat. If you don't have the evening dress, a smart velvety raincoat that is waterproof — one that will double." What's more, she happens to have just the right velvety raincoat with a "swing back and glamorous hood" for around £350.

The main problem is that dress codes are so fluid these days. Chopping up the Royal Opera and Ballet and spreading them everywhere from EC2 to W6 merely makes what many people find a difficult enough sartorial situation worse. Even Lisa Armstrong of *Vogue* has difficulty making a concrete recommendation. "Wear whatever you wear with an air of confidence," she says, "because nobody knows the rules any more. If you look good, then it is fine. You can be wearing a giant tummy-button ring and not much else, but if it looks good that's fine, too."

Fine, no doubt, for the Labbatt's Apollo... But, who knows, when the Royal Opera House reopens in the next millennium, pierced navels may even be de rigueur.

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Long black sloppy Joe jumper with roll neck, £169, and black PVC leather-look jeans, £99, both by Joseph from the Kingshill catalogue *(01494 890 555)*

Left: Zip-up cardigan, £64.99, and navy straight low-cut trousers, £59.99. Right: Cropped roll-neck sweater, £59.99, with charcoal low-cut trousers, £59.99, all by Dirk Bikkemberg from the La Redoute catalogue (0500 777777)

Keyhole top, £59.50, and jeans, £75, by Katharine Hamnett Denim in Littlewoods catalogue (0345 888222)

Gone are the days when mail-order *shopping meant* selecting from frumpy crimplene separates that were cheap, badly made and poorly designed. Today a new breed of catalogues are providing clothes that are actually desirable, with good-quality fabrics and a blend of modern styles and classic looks that suit almost everyone.

The choice has had to get wider. With an increasingly demanding — and design-conscious — public, even the most basic catalogues have had to cater for those who are into the latest looks, as well as those who are looking for good-looking classics.

"People are more fashion aware and want more choice," says Eric Faintreny, the general *manager of La Redoute* (0500 777777), the French catalogue that now sells top-label designer clothing such as Joseph, Jean Paul Gaultier, Plein Sud and Dirk Bikkemberg in Britain. "It is not just the classics that the customer wants, but a more trendy, up-to-date look, ranging from the unusual to the better-quality basics."

Mr Faintreny traces the changing attitude of catalogues back to the launch of the Next Directory in 1988. "They opened up a whole new market," he says of his competitor. Next (0345 100500) introduced mail order to a more affluent customer than *had been previously* targeted and the rest of the mail-order industry slowly followed suit, targeting a younger crowd with style sense. Customers who were particularly targeted were those living in isolation in the country.

"The Directory is not just for the stylish girl about town, but for the customer who cannot get to our shops often enough and needs fashionable pieces all year round," a spokesman said.

Other mainstream catalogues such as Freemans, Littlewoods and Empire are trying to entice this new home shopper with the inclusion of high-street names and designer labels. As well as their mainstay basics, Freemans (0345 900100) *includes* fashions from Warehouse, Whistles, Naf Naf and Miss Selfridge. Littlewoods (0345 888222) sells many recognisable names such as Katharine Hamnett, Red or Dead and Polo Ralph Lauren, and Empire (0800 220230) has a feature-range from Jean Paul Gaultier.

Specialist catalogues have emerged such as Kingshill (01494 890655), which features mainly designer labels such as Nicole Farhi, Amanda Wakeley, Jean Muir and Betty Jackson, and there is the *Elegance* Boutique brochure (01159 678123) with its upmarket classics.

If you don't want to brave the high street, mail order can be the *perfect* way to try new looks. Call it in, in various sizes, colours and styles and test things out with your existing wardrobe. Return the items you do not like and have the added bonus of not having to pay straight away, or pay in instalments when you decide what you want to keep. "Returning the things you do not want should be free for most catalogues," says Mr Faintreny. "After all, mail order is about convenience."

If time is tight and you prefer to shop in your own time from the comfort of your home, *there should* be something for you in one of the revamped catalogues.

It's time to forget all about blisters and irritating assistants — in the Nineties, shopping has never been easier.

Heath Brown

THREE OF A KIND

DESIGNERS have got birds on the brain: this season's catwalks featured brightly-plumed creatures, feathered from head to toe. But you don't have to go the whole way — a feather hair accessory will keep you high in the pecking order. **H.B.**

Maribou hairpins, £7.99 each, from Accessorize branches (0171-313 3000)

Black and red feathers with flowers, £25, from Fenwick, London W1 (0171-247 1496)

Feathered hair sticks, £15 each, *Otto Glanz* at House of Fraser (0181-365 1711)

Gold Chinese dress, £70, by Warehouse; strappy mules, by Vittoria, £20, Freemans catalogue (0345 900100)

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EC noise threat to British mowers

If you're buying a mower, go for one that won't annoy the people next door, says **Stephen Anderton**

When the wildflower lobby abuses the lawn-loving lobby it is usually because of the lack of biodiversity in a lawn and the pollution from petrol-driven mowers. Only rarely is the noise of mowers a source of criticism. Yet, socially speaking, mower noise is a pollutant second only to road traffic and aircraft.

How often does anyone consider how noisy a machine will be when they buy it? Yes, we toss up between cylinder and rotary mowers, between petrol and electric, and between man-powered, self-propelled and ride-on mowers. But the noise?

We should, because nine times out of ten lawns are cut at the evening and weekends, when many other people want to relax in the garden with family and friends. The howl of a determined mower the other side of the fence is the stuff of neighbourhood feuds. It niggles beyond reason, like the wind-chime two doors down from me.

But lawn mowers can be as quiet as we want to afford them to be. Stand beside a Rolls-Royce when it is just ticking over and you hardly hear a thing. There are mowers which work that way too, such as the Ransome's Super Certes and the Atco Royale. But notice that these are cylinder mowers. Petrol driven, yes, but cylinder mowers none the less. They are up-market machines costing several hundred pounds, and the engines are well silenced and baffled to give a purring performance.

Rotaries, on the other hand, howl even at a standstill. The manufacturers could spend more on silencing them to the standards found in cylinder machines, but half the noise with a rotary machine is from the howl of the wind the blade draws in — the vacuuming effect which throws the clippings into the grassbox or, in the case of a hover mower, keeps the machine afloat. If the manufacturers spent money on making the engine better silenced, it would increase the price without producing a significantly quieter machine. So they would lose market share. And no sane manufacturer is going to do that willingly.

Until I had a lawn of my own, I had used only professional machines, and considered electric mowers to be expensive toys. These days I can see their virtue. While the petrol-driven mower offers you freedom to go wherever you like, with no trailing cables to snag round trees and plants and corners of steps, the cost of a petrol-driven machine in a small garden makes no sense. Not only are they more expensive to buy, but there is the considerable cost of servicing to be taken into account. And servicing is important, especially with regard to noise. An old, clapped-out mower is as noisy and smelly a machine as you could wish to find, and guaranteed to niggle the neighbours.

> 'The howl of grass cutters is the stuff of neighbour feuds'

If you want the mobility of a petrol-driven machine with the cheapness and quietness of an electric machine, then hope is at hand. Battery-powered machines are becoming cheaper and more efficient at last. Black & Decker, for example, has produced a battery-operated 33cm rotary machine, the GRC730, for £199.99. This is about £50 more than a comparable mains-powered electric but, if trailing cables enrage you, this may be the machine for you.

The Black & Decker is said to cut 300 square metres of grass on a fully charged battery. My lawn is almost exactly that size and the machine has only ever run out of power on me once, when the grass was wet and particularly heavy going. The harder it has to work, the shorter its cutting time. The battery is only 12-volt, which means that there is no risk of serious electric shocks, and the removable battery charges up from empty in 24-36 hours on trickle charge. On dry grass it works like a dream, but when the grass is at all wet it struggles to throw it far enough into the box. But for a small lawn, which you can cut at any old time and wait for it to dry, it represents real progress for the price. It is also satisfactorily quiet.

But what is quiet? In Germany there are by-laws restricting the use on Saturday afternoons and Sundays of lawn mowers which create more than 88 decibels of noise. That rules out all our petrol-driven machines. In Europe as a whole, mowers up to 50cm in width (and nylon-line trimmers) are permitted to produce no more than 96dB. But, because every 3dB represents a doubling of the noise level, the German by-laws mean their machines must be nearly 14 times quieter than ours at weekends.

At the moment, the EC is looking at reducing still further the noise regulations relating to mowers, and it may well be that soon the limit for small mowers will come down from 96dB. Lowering that level is easy enough for electric machines, but it soon becomes almost impossible for petrol-driven mowers.

Strangely, mowers are tested for noise when working flat out; and whereas a rotary is designed to run at full revs, cylinder mowers are rarely used at full throttle and in practice deliver far less combined engine and blade noise than a rotary.

Hover mowers tend to be noisiest, even among electric machines, because of the noise of the fan which generates the thrust to let them float. Mulch mowers, which have 50 per cent of the American market but only a tiny fraction here, are not especially noisy, because they do not have an angled blade to lift the clippings into the grass box. But they generally require a petrol engine to function well.

Machines vary between manufacturers but, theoretically, the quietest machine ought to be an electric cylinder mower, in which the ratio of engine noise to blade noise is roughly 20 per cent engine and 80 per cent blades. Unfortunately, battery technology is not sufficient to produce efficient large electric cylinder mowers, and even the bigger professional battery rotary machines are expensive.

But who knows, in a few years battery technology may bring us the electric lawn mower as the norm, along with the electric car. It would make gardens much quieter places, especially at the weekend. Wind chimes, of course, will operate on an entirely silent and renewable resource, and are, therefore, socially acceptable. Or so I tell myself when I slam the bedroom window in the small hours.

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Recipe for a garden to make people see red

Jane Owen meets a cook who could well have earned a decent crust as a gardener with her energetic flair for creating a bright and bold landscape

Chairman of the Royal Society of Arts, author of 17 cookery books, founder of the eponymous restaurant and cookery school, Prue Leith reckons that, if she were to start again, she would be a gardener rather than a cook. "Although it would not have made me as much money," she says, surveying her sumptuous landscaped garden on the Warwickshire borders.

I bet it would have: the Prue Leith Gardening School for the well-heeled wellie-wearer, the books about how to prepare a garden for a house party or wedding would have earned a decent crust.

Maybe it was an early *frisson* with a lawn mower which gave us the cook and not the gardener. In her parents' garden in South Africa, filled with primary colours, young Leith used to walk with her father and talk to him as he did the lawn with a push-mower. Then he bought a motor mower whose growling efficiency brought an end to the talks.

Ms Leith came to gardening when she and her husband, Rayne Kruger, found their country home, 30 rolling acres with a burnt-yellow stone manor house, 21 years ago. Immediately the ground was put to use. It was the Seventies, when the mangetout was today's balsamic vinegar, and a courgette was a marrow for wimps. So Ms Leith grew mangetout and globe artichokes, physallis and baby courgettes with their sunny yellow flowers still attached, and had them driven up to her restaurant in London.

As the children fled the nest, and unusual vegetables became more readily available, the vegetable garden was scaled down, giving greater time to develop the flower garden and the landscape.

Enter Jill Parker, the wife of Sir Peter the railway man, a neighbour, gardening guru and friend with strong opinions about good taste in a garden. Coming from South Africa where the light is harshly bright, and where the flowers are big and bold and brassy, Ms Leith had to be taken in hand.

On the whole, the Parker Good Taste was taken on board; but there are areas of defiance. The red garden to the west of the house is a large area put down to a terrace with a vine-covered pergola, where gorgeous hanging baskets trail reds in the height of summer and all the surrounding beds are packed with red flowers and foliage. Here Ms Leith and her friend and family take their meals during summer.

And then there's the landscape. Steps down from the stone terrace around the house lead across a lawn to a ha-ha and a large field beyond where Ms Leith had a lake dug with an island at its centre. It was her husband's idea, though he claims to have nothing to do with the garden and regards nature as something which has to be controlled. The island is joined to the mainland by a Japanese-style bridge (designed by Mr Kruger) and at the centre of the island is a Japanese-style pagoda in the most strident red known to man. The croquet shed on the main lawn near the house rejoices in the same colour.

ME AND MY GARDEN: PRUE LEITH

Neighbours have complained, according to Ms Leith, though I could not spot a neighbouring house, farm or cottage as far as the horizon. Visitors have been "dismayed". The red remains.

But Ms Leith cannot leave it alone and cultivates the company of fuschias and dahlias of the brightest colours.

The sturdy growth throughout the garden is down to Roy Pearse, her gardener for the past 12 years who is obsessed with healthy soil. There was no soil around the lake, so he imported 200 tons of topsoil and 200 tonnes of grit for the area. His soil production line makes earthworms rejoice.

He has ten compost bays — unsightly things made from breeze block — in an area larger than most London gardens. The resulting fine, black tilth is then barrowed to an outhouse, where it is mixed with grit and other secret ingredients in an orange cement mixer and turned on to the garden. His plant-labelling system is the best I've seen. No naff plastic labels here, but smooth pebbles written on with indelible marker and varnished over.

The main garden around the house is traditional English: moneyed traditional English. Instead of the usual wobbly rose pergola whose pretty, thin frames will collapse in a couple of years, Ms Leith has a custom-made black-painted iron pergola which would withstand an SAS assault. It is far wider than any commercially available pergola so that the plants have room to grow without getting mildew and strut their stuff without getting tangled up in each other. The legs have been set into concrete which is, in turn, set into upturned drainpipes.

The pergola was a birthday present from her husband, as was the 40ft-long stone wall between the fruit and vegetable garden and a huge herbaceous border.

At the end of the rose tunnel is a bronze of a man sitting on a fence. Actually, it is a fibreglass model of an actor which Ms Leith bought for £5 and painted over with a mix of liquid graphite and resin.

"I like the physical work in gardening. Digging and the messy stuff. I like instant results and I like new projects. I don't have the patience to do the things that Roy does, such as dividing the snowdrops and planting them individually."

MARTIN BEDDALL

Prue Leith likes "the physical work in gardening: digging and the messy stuff"

هكذا من الأصل

A pond with the right mix of marginal and aquatic plants will enrich most gardens and encourage wildlife

Splash out on a soothing pond

BOB GIBBONS

Clumps of golden *Carex* and other plants break up the hard outline of this pool on the terrace of Parcevall Hall Gardens in North Yorkshire

Installing a pond is one of the most satisfactory things you can do in a garden. However small, with astonishing it becomes speed, the home of all sorts of water creatures, adding a new dimension to garden life.

A pool can be classical or naturalistic, modernist or traditional. A formal, reflecting pond, brings the sky down to earth, while a pool with a fountain will add movement, sound and sparkle to its surroundings.

A newly made pond can look disappointingly stark. Unless it is very deep, algae bloom appears and clouds the water. Finding your way round the various types of water-garden plants seems bewildering; you must learn to differentiate between marginal, aquatic, oxygenating, floating and bog plants. It is all worth it.

The first plants to acquire are aquatic and oxygenating plants. A still pool needs oxygenating plants (one to every square metre) and about half the surface area should be covered with leaves to help keep the water clear.

The most satisfactory way to do this is to plant a water lily, a *Nymphaea* cultivar, of the correct size for the pond. Select one or two carefully. Water lilies are divided into dwarf (which can be planted in a half-barrel), small, medium and vigorous, which will cover a small lake.

Before introducing a pump for a fountain, note that water lilies do not like moving water. While the lilies are establishing, floating plants will provide temporary cover.

It is worth making the effort to visit a garden centre that specialises in water plants. There you should be able to find a wide selection of water lilies and floating plants like the tender water hyacinth. Look for *Hottonia palustris*, the water violet, or *Ranunculus aquatilis*, the water buttercup, two oxygenating plants that flower, rather than making do with Canadian pondweed, although this is a useful oxygenator if there is nothing else available.

The difference between a pond which looks as if it belongs and another which does not invariably lies in the poolside planting. Marginal and bog plants can add immeasurably to the appeal. They also help wildlife.

The butyl liners that have made it possible to have ponds in the smallest and most unlikely places have unsightly edges that need to be disguised. Water levels rise and fall, and however carefully stones are laid, one day there will be broad bands of shiny black butyl visible round the edges. Good planting can go a long way to stopping this.

However the pond is constructed, there should always be ledges or sloping areas around the perimeter to accommodate marginal and bog plants. Even a raised, formal pond will benefit from some vertical leaves to contrast with the flat surface of the water.

The perfect plant family, mimicking the vertical lines of the reeds and rushes frequently found in the wild, is the iris. The native flag iris, *I. pseudacorus*, looks as well by an informal garden pond as it does in the wild. With *I. pseudacorus* 'Variegata' there are stripy spears by the pond all year round, as well as bright yellow flowers in spring. Accompany these with *I. sibirica*, *I. laevigata* and *I. ensata* and there will be a succession of magnificent flowers to mid-summer and beyond. *I. ensata* and I. *iberica* are suitable for the boggy outer margins and do not like being over-wet in winter, while *I. laevigata*, *I. versicolor* and *I. pseudacorus* will stand in shallow water.

To contrast with these, there are many large-leaved plants. The bog arum, callas, and zantedeschias are marginal plants and can be planted in shallow water. Giant gunnera, *G. manicata*, American skunk cabbage, *Lysichiton americanus*, the umbrella plant, *Peltiphyllum peltata*, ornamental rhurbarb, *Rheum palmatum*, the giant king cup, *Caltha cordata* and, of course, hostas flourish in damp soil at the edge of the pond.

On the edge of the Ashdown Forest in East Sussex, Dr and Mrs Steven Smith's garden, Moorlands, is doubly blessed. It slopes down towards a tiny tributary of the River Medway and also has a natural spring, which feeds a chain of ponds in the valley bottom. The water table is high and, until this year, the ground has been permanently squelchy. In addition to the ponds, there is a bog area richly planted with the bog bean, lysichiton, reeds and yellow loosestrife. Kingcups stand tall out of the water, which is punctuated by the upright rosettes of *Stratiotes alides*.

The margins of the bog are faced with pieces of stone. Plants can root in the gaps between the stone, so *Lysimachia punctata*, the yellow loosestrife, marches down towards the water while the bog bean, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, scrambles up out of it, blurring the boundaries of water and ground.

Primulas love the damp soil and look good against the bold foliage of the marginal and bog plants. *Primula florindae*, *bulleyana* and rich red Inshriach hybrids self-seed. The American skunk cabbage is equally prolific but these large-leafed plants often choose inconvenient places to appear.

Recommended for hiding the edges of a naturalistic pond, are *Calla palustris*, the bog arum. It has small white arum-lily flowers and bold, heart-shaped leaves.

The bog bean has a creeping rootstock and seems to live happily in Dr Smith's bog garden, where the water is about 18in deep above a layer of black mud.

The brooklime, *Veronica beccabunga*, grows to about nine inches and has typical blue veronica flowers with a white eye all summer long.

BARBARA ABBS

POND FACTS

PLANTING

Aquatic plants such as water lilies, water hawthorn, the pond lily or the golden club should be planted in special perforated baskets which have a fine mesh liner or can be lined with hessian, and set in heavy loam or clay soil with some bone meal added (no peat or soil-less compost which is too light).

Plant firmly and cover the surface of the soil thickly with pea gravel or pebbles.

The basket is watered and then lowered into the pond. Water-lily leaves should float on the surface of the water. If the water is too deep, the basket must be raised on bricks. These can be removed as the stems lengthen.

Marginal plants can be planted in the same way and placed on a ledge made at the margins of the pond or planted directly into the soil at the edge. Floaters are placed on the water.

Oxygenators can be dropped into the water, but anything other than duckweed (to be avoided) or Canadian pondweed is best planted in a shallow basket in the same way as aquatics and marginal plants.

SELECTED WATER LILIES

Nymphae 'Paul Hariot' is a dwarf water lily with comparatively large flowers of copper-tinged yellow; N. 'Caroliniana Nivea' is a fragrant white lily suitable for a small pool; *N.* 'Rose Arey' has reddish green leaves and deep pink flowers, for a medium pond. *N.* 'Odorata Sulphurea Grandiflora' has star-shaped yellow flowers and needs a large pond.

BRITISH NATIVE MARGINAL PLANTS

Butomus umbrellatus (Flowering Rush), *Caltha palustris* (Marsh Marigold), *Iris pseudacorus* (Yellow Flag), *Menyanthes trifoliata* (Bog Bean), *Mimulus aurantiacus* (Yellow Monkey Musk) and *Myosotis scorpiodes* (Water forget-me-not).

OTHER SUITABLE PLANTS

Pontederia cordata. Pickerel weed. Heart-shaped leaves and spikes of blue flowers betwen July and September; *Houttuynia cordata* 'Chameleon'; *I. versicolor*; *I. laevigata* 'Snowdrift'; *I. ensata* (any cultivar): *Lysichiton americanus* (yellow flowers) and *Lysichiton camtschatcenis* (white flowers).

● *Moorlands, Friar's Gate, near Crowborough, East Sussex, is open on every Wednesday, 2-6pm, until October.*

Skunk cabbage (left) and *Houttuynia cordata*

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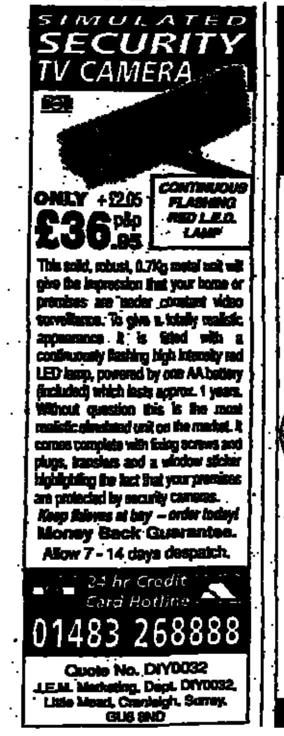
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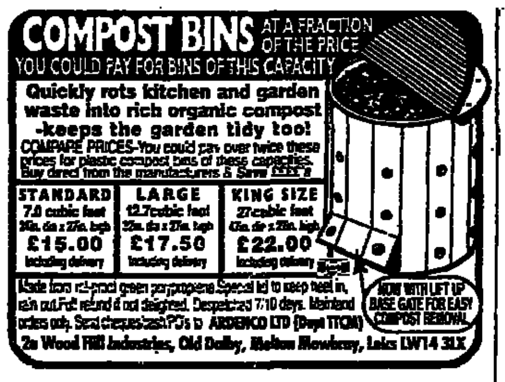
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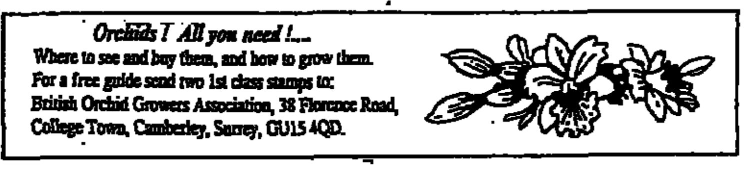
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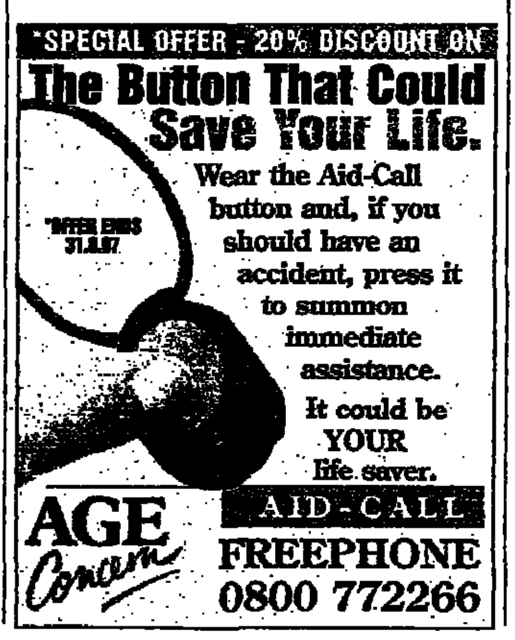
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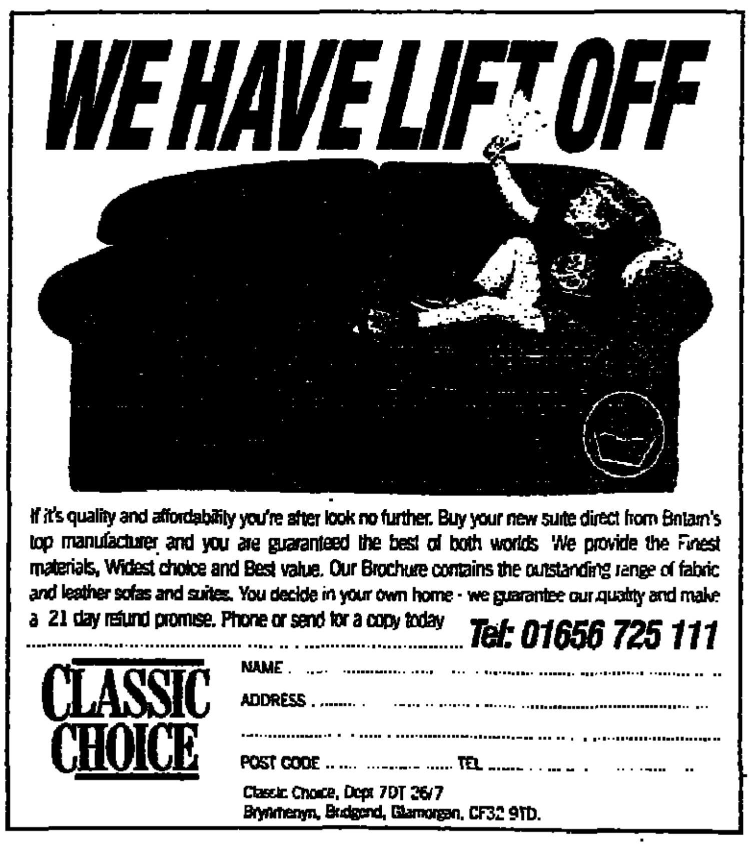
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GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON

replies to readers' letters

Q Earlier in the year we prepared the ground for a new lawn, killing the perennial weeds and making a good seed bed. Now the lawn is growing, but there are as many broadleafed weeds as there are grass seedlings. We understand it is not advisable to use selective weedkillers until the grass is at least six months old. What can we do meanwhile to eradicate the weeds? — R.H. Reed, Ringmer, East Sussex.

A Even a new lawn needs mowing — just topping off at 2in or so — to thicken it up and encourage growth. Doing this is sufficient to knock back the weeds for now. As the grass thickens, they will have less chance to succeed, and you can spray them in autumn or spring. Many are annuals which will disappear. I know the lawn looks messy now, but you will be surprised how time will improve things.

Q My son has a 50ft fence in his garden under Scots pines. He wants to replace the rickety fence with a 7ft hedge to hide a neighbour's shed. The hedge needs to be bushy at the base, evergreen, and with some colour, but not leylandii. What can he plant, and how long do Scots pines live? — Mrs B. Beattie, Tadley, Hampshire.

A The density of any hedge will depend on the degree of shade it is subject to and root competition from the pines. I suggest he uses tough, shade-bearing plants, such as hardy hybrid rhododendrons (if the soil is not limey), laurels, box, bamboo, *Osmanthus decorus*, and *Viburnum tinus*. Scots pines can last 70 to 200 years. In craggy old age they have great style and charm. If yours are crowded, with too much root competition, select one or two and give them the space and light to develop fully into old age.

Q Four years ago I bought two *Syringa x laciniata* under the impression that they were cut-leafed evergreen lilacs. I have them in pots, in sun, and the ferny leaf is attractive, but they never flower, and are certainly not evergreen. What can I do? — P.A. Pettifer, Watford, Hertfordshire.

A No lilac is really evergreen in this country. This one comes from China and there is confusion about its status. What at least seems certain is that plants under this name are not a form of the Persian lilac, *Syringa persica*, but they do grow, like *S. persica*, to 6ft or more, with rich lilac flowers and a good perfume. Lilacs are notoriously greedy plants. I would put yours out into the ground, in sun, with some good manure underneath, and watch them get on with it. The leaf is intriguingly variable, and can be cut to a greater or lesser degree. Out of flower, you would never guess it was a lilac.

● *Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. We regret that that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

OPEN THIS WEEKEND

■ **Arley Garden Festival, Arley, Cheshire (01565 777353).**

Signposted from J19/20 of the M6 and J9/10 of the M56. Today and tomorrow, 10am-5pm, £4, OAPs £3, children £2.

This weekend's attractions include a garden-design team, advice panel, flower arrangements and sales of specialist plants from about 40 local nurseries. The gardens include ornamental yew butressses to partition off the herbaceous border, a long terrace of holly, aucuba, golden and Irish yew, ilex and thuja, a Victorian stumpery of flowering shrubs, maples and ferns, a collection of shrub roses and a woodland garden.

■ **Hopley's, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire (01279 842509).**

On High Street, near The Bull pub. Open Mon, Wed-Sat 9am-5pm and Sun 2-5pm, all year except Jan-Feb. £1.50, children free. Charity evening tonight.

The parkland-style four acres of Hopley's has about 4,000 varieties of plants and the third biggest ash tree in the country — about 100ft. Two unusual forms of golden *Tradescantia*, 'Chedglow' and 'Blue and Gold' will be at their best this weekend. Another features is the bog and water garden.

"Not in my back yard" is a foreign phrase to two neighbourhoods sharing gardens

On track for urban harmony

As Tony Blair gets down to putting One Nation politics into practice, he might take a few lessons from a group of one-nation gardeners, who have fought off development plans and preserved a long, thin garden that none of them owns but which all 60 or so households have helped to bring back from a wilderness to a landscape for all ages.

Not far from the thundering A40, a street of terraced houses in west London backs on to a railway line, leaving a strip of between 30ft and 50ft for about a quarter of a mile between the brick walls of the back gardens and the track.

Some residents in the 1906 two-storey flats remember when this area was used for allotments and a brook sparkled along the centre. The allotments were abandoned decades ago, the brook vanished and a mass of brambles grew up.

A few years ago, at one end of the street, Denney Levine and Suzie Gretz were tempted over their back wall to start clearing and cultivating an area. A barbecue was built and a swing was hung from a mature oak. Children from other parts of the street began to make their way up to the swing, so encouraging their elders to clear the areas beyond their gardens.

Today, there is a mosaic of cultivated areas used by all the residents, interspersed with brambles, bindweed and thistle. This is a peaceful place, with few trains and plenty of birds. Materials for the hard landscaping are mostly reclaimed and the plants grown from cuttings and seeds.

In an area with a distinctly Japanese feel, introduced by John Lowry, there is a five-sided pergola with a surrounding jungly planting of angelica, large-leafed *Macleaya cordata*, holly and roses.

When Mr Lowry, a distant relation of the painter, moved here 15 years ago, he planted a stunning pink tree peony, and added a few Japanese features, along with a gate and a deer scarer. "I am an architect but I went through some lean years and used the time to clear part of the communal garden," says Mr Lowry, who built a totem pole from a brick base and part of a railway lamp he had found on the track.

More and more gates were cut through the walls of the back gardens into the communal area and old chimney pots were planted up and dotted along the garden. The whole street became enthused.

The most recent addition is a pond. Last Easter Mr Lowry dug a hole and bought a liner. Others chipped in to help pay for it. That is how the garden works: co-operation rather than coercion. Everybody puts in what they can in kind or labour or, sometimes, money. There is a bog garden, an orchard of trees salvaged from a skip and a brilliant sea of forget-me-nots and senecio. The latter is an area cultivated by Mrs Christine Corney, who has lived in the street for 50 years. She laid the terrace with bricks discarded by a neighbour. Poppies have self-seeded down the length of the garden, giving a united theme.

> 'This garden is a place for everyone around to enjoy'

In Tom and Ena Ryall's area, there is a cottage-garden feel, with a bench at the centre of onions, hollyhocks, ornamental cabbages, curry plants, aquilegia, candytuft, hellebores, ribes and chives. "We don't mind if people come and sit on this bench. All this garden is for everybody to enjoy," says Mrs Ryall, whose grandchildren were playing in the garden when I visited.

One of them, Rebecca May, a six-year-old Spice Girl fan, said: "I like playing here. It's got a nice swing and the flowers are pretty."

Nearby is a newly cleared area with a heap of debris, which gives some idea of the vast effort involved in clearance. Old Hoovers, bits of railway, part of an Anderson air-raid shelter, lino and an old lawn mower have been dug out of an area of about 30ft by 20ft. Once, residents found a barrister's wig with the initials sewn in. They traced the owner through the Law Society and he rewarded them with a bottle of wine.

Three years ago, Jo Hutton cleared the area at the back of her garden. It took six people working hard for a week to complete the task. Now she grows spinach, carrots, potatoes, radishes and broccoli, and has built a barbecue.

"I have two boys, aged six and nine, and this is a good area for them. It is completely safe and it gives an urban space, with all the freedom of the countryside," said Mrs Hutton, a composer and music teacher of Afro jazz.

Nearby, Smita Davé and Martin Murphy, both architects, have a stylish, cool garden in pebbles and brick. It is "an oasis of calm" in a flamboyant area, where a green canopy flutters over a barbecue area beside a vegetable plot, where four levels have been edged with old roof tiles, logs, planks and bricks.

Ms Davé's next project is an adventure playground for her sons — Milan, aged four, and Nikhil, two — and the other children.

At the far end of the garden, I found Nat Waugh, a grandson of Evelyn, cutting away the brambly jungle with a heavy-duty strimmer. He was being helped by ten-year-old Myles Keene, a neighbour, who was wielding a meat cleaver (dug out of the communal garden) at the brambles.

Myles's favourite haunt is some old cherry trees, where his parents have rigged up a rope climbing frame. It is thanks to Myles, who took Mr Waugh to see some other parts of the garden when he moved in a year ago, that Mr Waugh was inspired to clear the area around his back garden.

Apart from the communal garden itself, the remarkable thing is that two redevelopment threats have been successfully fought off. A lease was granted to residents in 1992. Then, in 1994, British Rail decided to make sidings which would have destroyed the garden. Mr Levine brought out campaign letters and a working group was formed to fight the plan. The next threat came in the form of a high-speed freight rail link from Leicester to the Channel ports. The residents are pretty sure they have fought that off, too.

"This garden is the glue of the community. It keeps us all together. We have communal parties and barbecues here. If you work collectively, you can move mountains. It is a magic garden," Mr Lowry says.

JANE OWEN

ALAN WELLER

Some of the residents of a London street who are turning wasteland between their homes and a railway line into a garden

WEEKEND TIPS

- ■ **Sow spring cabbage and winter spinach direct into the ground. Line out young plants of winter and Savoy cabbages.**
- ■ **Rest Christmas cacti for a month by standing them in a shady place without water, indoors or out.**
- ■ **Watch out for red spider damage in glasshouses. Treat by biological control; increase humidity to make conditions less favourable.**
- ■ **Continue to give liquid feed fortnightly to large-flowered clematis.**
- ■ ***If lawns must be* watered, soak them well. Water dry compost heaps to keep them active.**

Friendly link with a Victorian plot

The Beatles' film *Help!* in 1965 featured the marvellous fiction that the Fabs each lived in four neighbouring London terraced houses, grimy and separate in appearance from the outside. Once through each door, however, the houses opened up into a fantasy in which all the interiors had been knocked together into a luxurious split-level pad.

This effect finds a faint echo at Stoke Newington, in north London, where a row of six Victorian terraced cottages have linked back gardens. This paragon of urban togetherness has not been achieved with an open, communal garden my means of gateways from one garden to another, or a vague line created by a difference in gardening style, thereby keeping their individual characters. All the residents can walk in and out of each patch.

A typically north London mix of indigents and cosmopolitan incomers, ranging in age from six to 85, live in the cottages. Jonathan Darke, an architect who lives in the top end of the terrace with Sarah Vaughan-Roberts, does not know exactly how long the garden links have been there, but says: "The gateways certainly go back three or four generations, because I've seen a neighbour's old photographs. They might even go back to when the houses were built in the 1840s. Some people who see it think we've done a bit of idealistic social engineering but, though we have built up the connectedness of the gardens, that aspect has been there a long time."

While any householder can walk through the gardens at any time, each has respect for the other residents' space. "If number three is having a party, no one walks through it," Ms Vaughan-Roberts says. "It's not *carte blanche:* we don't abuse the walk-through factor." She adds: "Each garden has evolved to have small, personal, secret bits. Everyone has been conscious about making their own space in each garden, so that we can all be anonymous, yet social at the same time." Fortunately, no one in the houses appears to have a problem with the knock-through notion. "It seems that, if you don't like the idea, you don't buy the house," Mr Darke says, "or you get used to it pretty quickly. But we all have to be sensitive and pick up on whether someone doesn't want people in their garden at a particular time."

John Darke in the communal gardens behind six Victorian houses

Such co-operation engenders a resourceful neighbourliness. The six householders borrow from one another: one house's lawn mower is used by everyone, and they water each other's plants if someone is away. They also club together for necessities: they chipped in to buy hazel hurdles. There is no tenants' committee, just an array of gardening styles to enjoy. At the top end, Mr Darke and Ms Vaughan-Roberts have built a garden that features foxgloves, old English roses, clematis, wild geranium, honeysuckle, raspberries and wild strawberries. There is also a bench beneath a bower. "It's somewhere in between an English cottage garden and a vastly scaled-down Romantic 18th-century idea," Mr Darke says. From their garden, a timber arch leads into the next-door neighbour's, which is used as a vegetable plot, where Ms Vaughan-Roberts has planted the borders with cuttings from her garden.

"I go in for free gardening," she says. This gives the feel of a decorative allotment, with rickety bamboo pea-poles joining scattered flowers. The residents don't mind, and everybody gets a share of the courgettes, peas, tomatoes and lettuce that grow there. "People harvest their own and sometimes you have to be a bit quick off the mark," Mr Darke says. "But it all seems to work out."

At the back of this garden is a brick bomb shelter, used for storage and not without its *Dad's Army* charm. "During the war, the man who lives there was a foreman at the council," Mr Darke says. "He had a de luxe bomb shelter rather than the standard Anderson shelter." The next garden, owned by an American couple, has a terrace of reclaimed building materials backed up with an oval lawn bordered with New World-tinged evergreens: peanut-butter plants, mimosa, eucalyptus, cordylines. Again, there is a vegetable patch, its rusticity contrasting with a sauna-like bathroom extension on their house.

The next garden, number four, belongs to an Australian and has, perhaps, the most finely tuned aesthetic on the block, with Italianate touches such as Tuscan terracotta pots and two trimmed espalier apple trees. It also has a massive old marble table, and small touches of poetic gardening curiosities: watering cans, a garden roller, a tin bath. A cast-iron copper — one of the old washing tubs that used to be standard in houses of this age — is used to display water plants, and at the back lies an ivy-covered Anderson shelter (clearly the house's wartime owner did not work for the council).

The next garden belongs to an octogenarian, who was born in the house. This is a traditional cottage garden, with flowers and vegetables grown from seed. "It is formal and pragmatic," says Mr Darke who, with the rest of the people in the terrace, helped to re-lay the stone path so that the owner can walk round the garden more easily.

Garden number six, at the far end of the terrace, is the only one which has a gate in it, because the owners have plenty of potential escapees — two young children, a dog, a rabbit and a pond full of frogs. There is also an old English medlar tree and a half-finished artist's studio at the end. "It's a children's paradise garden," says Ms Vaughan-Roberts, who doesn't mind the frogs taking a walkabout because they apparently eat slugs, though they themselves risk getting eaten by several local hedgehogs and a fox.

The whole effect of this garden chain set-up offers various gardening forms and functions to each of the residents without them having to buy a stately home. Perhaps the gardens also act as a paradigm of the best possible urban life: social, yet individually expressive and potentially anonymous.

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Gilt-edged invitation to the classics

Joyce Blake learns the economical way to decorate with gilding

A touch of gold can add glamour and drama to the most mundane room. Gilding is a technique that has been used for thousands of years to great effect. Throughout the centuries many great works of art have been presented in magnificent gilded frames and the Egyptians used gold leaf to gild the striking coffin of Tutankhamun.

Gilding is the application of gold or other metal leaf to a surface. Traditional gilding methods using gold leaf are expensive. There are, however, cheaper metal leaf products and these can be used along with easier application methods that allow the amateur to recreate the sumptuous feel of the authentic version.

Louise O'Keefe has gilded the alcoves in the dining room of her house in Cricklewood, North London. She says: "Our dining room has an oriental feel with a red lacquer fireplace and I wanted to display some of my Chinese ornaments there. I thought a gilded background would complement them, so I gilded the walls. I am very pleased with the result".

[illegible]

Sandpaper, oil-based paint for use with oil-based gold size or water-based paint for use with water-based gold size, varnishing brush, dust cloth, quick drying gold size or Wundasize, books of transfer metal leaf — (Dutch metal is reasonably priced), cotton wool, Shellac polish, polyurethane varnish, fine steel wool, white spirit and paper towels.

[illegible]

It is worth experimenting on a piece of wood to see the effects that can be achieved using different background paints. It is also worth practising distressing techniques. Repair any wall cracks with a fine-grade filler and sandpaper the surface to a smooth finish.

[illegible]

Apply one coat of the base paint to the wall and allow to dry thoroughly.

Wipe the wall with a damp cloth to remove all dust.

Use a varnishing brush to apply a thin layer of the gold size or Wundasize to the wall. Leave the gold size to dry until it is tacky. Check the texture — it is ready for use when it has a similar texture to adhesive tape. Wundasize will become transparent when it is ready to receive the metal leaf.

The metal leaf can then be applied to the wall. Lay a sheet of the metal leaf over the gold size, metal side down. Use your fingers to rub gently over the waxed backing paper.

Remove the waxed paper carefully. Gently press cotton wool across the leaf to ensure it sticks to the wall. Follow the same application method for the remaining squares allowing them to overlap slightly until the area is complete.

At this stage the gilding can be finished with Shellac polish and varnished or distressed.

A simple way to achieve a distressed effect is by gently rubbing the gilded area with fine wire wool dipped in white spirit, and then using a paper towel to rub over the same area and soften the look. It is worth practising on your sample board to decide on the look you wish to achieve.

When you have completed your gilding, brush on Shellac polish. This will dull the Dutch metal and ensure it does not look too brassy.

Apply three coats of polyurethane varnish to protect your work.

[illegible]

The following companies sell products for gilding and offer a mail-order service:

Foxell and James, 57 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB (0171-405 0152).

Paint Magic (stocks own range of products for gilding), 0171-354 9696 for details.

Louise O'Keefe gilding a tray. "It gives an oriental look"

Simon Freeman and **Giles Whittell** wonder who buys houses with alarming histories

REUTERS

AP

CAMERAPRESS

Above: The palatial home that formerly belonged to O.J. Simpson, the American footballer. The bank that has bought the house in the desirable suburb of Brentwood, Los Angeles, expects to make a tidy profit when it resells it after sprucing it up

Far left: An aerial view of the house and grounds with the guesthouse to the right of the picture

Left: O.J. Simpson has been given 60 days to leave his former home

Homes with a fatal attraction

Anyone who wants more from a Californian mansion than the usual sumptuous array of bedrooms, "his and her" bathrooms, mock-Tudor fire-places, private cinema and tennis court, might consider 360 North Rockingham Avenue in the desirable Los Angeles suburb of Brentwood. For the past 20 years this has been the home O.J. Simpson, the American football legend who will be remembered for ever as the man acquitted of murdering his ex-wife, Nicole Brown, and her friend, Ron Goldman.

Viewing is not possible at the moment, however, since Simpson is still living there, although the house has just been sold for a bargain £1.5 million to help pay off his huge legal bills and £20 million damages which a civil court awarded the families of Brown and Goldman. The new owner, a bank called Hawthorne Savings which was one of Simpson's many creditors, has given him 60 days to leave. Once he has gone, the bank will "spruce the house up" and put it on the market for at least £1 million more than it fetched when it was auctioned on the steps of a local court.

David Hardin, Hawthorne's executive vice-president, thought the bank had picked up the 6,000 square foot, five-bedroom, six-bathroom house so cheaply because "people who are spending millios of dollars on a home don't like being seen at courtside auctions". But he was confident about the resale possibilities: "So much has happened here. And that will push the price up." Elaine Young, a local estate agent who specialises in "celebrity" properties, is also enthusiastic. She sold the house to Simpson in 1977, and said: "People with an ego will want to go around saying they bought OJ's house. It will put an extra $1 million on the price."

Whether Ms Young is being too optimistic depends on the reaction of buyers to the unsavoury history of the property. There was evidence during Simpson's trial of a bloody trail leading up the drive on the night in June, 1994, when Brown and Goldman were killed; there is the putting green where Simpson said he was practising when they died, and the guest house occupied by Brian "Kato" Kaelin, who was a star witness at the trial.

Edward Heaton, manager of the countryside department at Stratton Creber in Plymouth, said people who bought old houses expected them to have colourful histories. However, recent, awful deeds were a definite disadvantage. "We expect to be given instructions soon for a house on Dartmoor where a woman was murdered. That will be very hard to sell."

There are dozens of properties regularly bestowed with the title of Britain's "most haunted house", including Littledean Hall, a 900-year-old, 28-room pile near Gloucester, which is one of the area's main tourist attractions. John and Sheila Christopher, who operate a ballooning business when it is sunny and are graphic designers in bad weather, have just bought the hall for "between £100,000 and £200,000", and say the presence of so many alleged ghosts simply added to the property's value.

The ghosts are said to include Charles Pyrke, murdered in 1741 by his black man-servant after he had raped the man's sister. Mrs Christopher said: "A lot of people experience things when they come here. They say they can feel heat above a bed, or can't breathe. Americans are always keen on this kind of thing. Unfortunately I haven't felt anything yet — but I would like to."

HOUSES OF HORROR

No 10 Rillington Place, where John Christie murdered six women, was demolished in the Seventies

Fred and Rosemary West killed nine women at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester. The site has been paved over

Melrose Avenue, where Dennis Nilsen murdered 12 young men. The house was sold to a developer in 1983

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

360 North Rockingham Avenue, Brentwood, Los Angeles.

- **Price:** likely to be higher than it should be on account of its ghoulish celebrity value. Certainly a multimillion-dollar home.
- **Setting:** millionaire's row in one of the classier suburbs of LA. Neighbours include half of the big names in Hollywood.
- **Shopping:** Rodeo Drive, one of the most vulgar streets in the world, is close by.
- **Entertainment:** gawping tourists who will arrive by the busload to gawp at OJ's residence..

PROPERTY PROFILE: WORCESTERSHIRE

Attractions: Recently separated from neighbouring Herefordshire, Worcestershire's most famous son is composer Sir Edward Elgar, born in the village of Lower Broadheath, just west of Worcester, although the area's new anti-hunting MP has ruffled a few feathers of late.

Many visitors follow the Elgar trails around the county, as well as taking in attractions such as the Severn Valley and its steam railway, the Malvern Hills and the spa town of Great Malvern. Hot spots include villages like Ombersley, six miles north of Worcester, the Teme Valley, and areas around the county's prestigious schools, such as Malvern College. Communications include the M5, M42, M50 and Birmingham airport.

The market: Hot according to Humberts in Worcester, which reckons prime country house prices look set to increase by 15 per cent this year. Agents Andrew Grant in Worcester has 50 per cent fewer properties on its books than at the same time last year. Knight Frank reports that about half its sales have exceeded the guide price in the past year, with many going to best and final offers.

The market fell by about 30 per cent from autumn 1988, reaching its lowest point in 1991. Confidence returned last summer, and Strutt & Parker says the prices have returned to peak levels.

Expect to pay: Around £150,000 to £200,000 for a small cottage, says Humberts; from £300,000 to £400,000 for a farmhouse and from £400,000 to £800,000 for medium to large country houses, according to Strutt & Parker.

Many of the properties over £200,000 go to buyers wanting to move out of Birmingham or to those on company relocations, says Humberts, which has had 15 per cent more national purchasers register during the past 12 months. Knight Frank reckons second-home owners head west of the Severn.

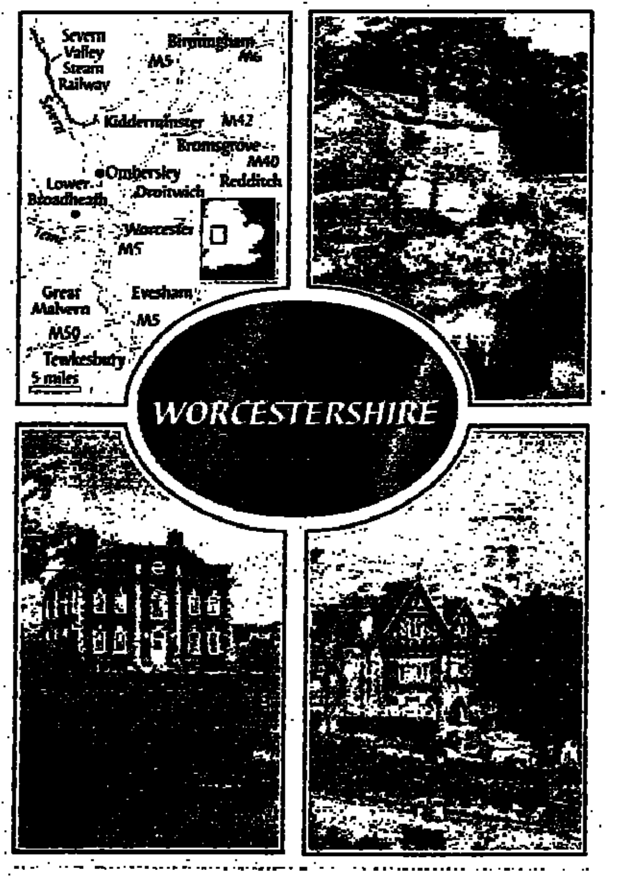
Significant sale: The Great House, near Worcester, was sold recently by Andrew Grant for well over the £1.3 million asking price. The Queen Anne house had been on the market for two months, and ended up with two or three serious bidders who were asked for best and final offers. Local agents are still reeling.

Outlook: Stable according to Knight Frank, although the more bullish Strutt & Parker reckons it will be more of the same, with supply still restricted.

Humberts, meanwhile, predicts steady rises, although expects to see some slowing of the market.

AMANDA LOOSE

● *Next Saturday's property profile: Hampshire*



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Renting can be good for you

Why are the British so keen on owning their homes when it often makes sense to rent?

The British do not aspire to rent their homes. Renting is for the young, the relatively poor, the mobile and, in the past few years, those bridging the gap between selling one property and buying the next. There's a deep-rooted stigma — most people do it out of necessity and dream of their own mortgage.

Yet consider the attractions. Renting offers freedom to move at limited notice and does away with responsibility, either of maintenance or of mortgage repayments — a big deal for those weighed down by the millstone of negative equity in recent years.

Could the aversion to renting be something do do with the traditional dominance of furnished letting? Certainly, the prospect of domestic life slouched in the landlord's cast-off settee amongst the cigarette burns of previous tenants is not an appealing one. But the past couple of years have seen a marked increase in the availability of unfurnished letting — Hamptons International, for instance, had 34 per cent of its tenancies unfurnished in the first quarter of 1997, compared with 16 per cent 12 months earlier.

So might perceptions change as a result? Surely, with the opportunity to raid Habitat and kit a place out as you'd like, renting is not such a bad idea. In major European cities, most people not only rent their homes, but are happy to do so indefinitely. So what is the British obsession with ownership? And is it possible that we might see a shift towards the accommodation habits of our European Union cousins in coming years?

We have not always been a nation of owner-occupiers. A century ago, renting was more or less inescapable for the rapidly growing urban middle class. But after the First World War, building societies offering credit facilities at low interest rates were on the increase, and most houses were built by private enterprise for sale rather than rent. The way was open for a growing slice of middle England to enjoy the sense of security and achievement of their own hme.

IMAGE BANK

Renting an apartment in Paris is half the price of one in London

House buying really took off after 1945. In that year, 26 per cent of English and Welsh houses were owner-occupied; by 1983 the figure was 63 per cent. It was fuelled by the policies of both main parties, with council house tenants encouraged to buy their homes and income tax relief offered on mortgage interest. The property-owning democracy had its feet under the table well before Thatcherism got a grip. "Home ownership is a most rewarding form of tenure," pronounced a 1974 Tory White Paper. "It satisfies a natural desire on the part of the householder to have independent control of the house that shelters him and his family."

It also satisfies a deep and natural desire to capitalise on the swings of the volatile UK property market, as many victims of the spectacular boom and collapse of the late 1980s could testify. Home ownership in Britain is seen as a chance to make money, in the long term if not the short term.

The flip side of the pro-purchase argument, however, is the hitherto unappealing nature of the rental market for anyone looking to make a home for themselves. Why on earth did furnished accommodation gain such a tight grip on the market? Legislation passed in the 1960s gave tenants strong rights to stay in property indefinitely and made it very difficult for landlords to regain possession. But the law made it easier to evict peoplefrom furnished properties.

Most landlords, predictably, took that route and furnished lettings became the norm, until the 1988 Housing Act introduced Assured Shorthold Tenancies lasting a minimum of six months. (After that time the landlord can serve notice and reclaim the property if he wishes). The Act made no distinction between furnished and unfurnished, though, thereby widening landlords' options.

Change has been a slow process, but the trend to "defurnish" London's letting scene has been helped along by other factors. Penny Parr Head at Hamptons International points to the spate of investors from Hong Kong and Singapore, who don't want to spend an extra £10,000 or £20,000 on furnishing that adds little value in terms of rent. She says: "They have helped shape the market. The supply's there now so the demand is moving towards it."

More significant is the introduction earlier this year of the Fire and Safety Regulations on furniture and furnishings. Landlords must meet stringent standards, which means that older stuff has to be replaced. As Patrick Bullick at Humberts says: "It's a huge incentive to people to let unfurnished."

YORKSHIRE TELEVISION

The TV series *Rising Damp* portrayed rented accommodation as laughable but there has been a marked increase in letting recently

So the shape of supply has shifted; but so has that of demand. There is still a large market for furnished one and two bedroom flats catering for transient workers and young people without possessions and 'there's an argument that if you furnish smaller places they'll go more quickly,' observes Catherine Cockcroft of Aylesburys. But London's an ever more international centre, and corporate lets for Europeans and Americans on two or three-year postings have become the mainstay of the central London rental market. They want larger properties, and they want them unfurnished so that they can bring their own belongings.

And that's not all. "Properties are still so difficult to find to buy that there are a great many British looking to rent after selling, while they find the right thing," says Catherine Cockcroft. A classic example is the Wright family, who in the light of the current strong market brought forward their plans to sell their house and move out of London. "We always planned to rent in the interim," explains Rosie Wright, "partly because the chances of getting the timing right were so remote, and partly because we're not yet sure where we want to live. We wanted unfurnished because we wanted to bring our home with us, and anyway storage costs can really escalate."

Problems lay in finding somewhere affordable and decent in the right part of south London. "There was a lot around, but the rent was high, £400 a week, and they were awful. Often they had been rented to young sharers, because the bill could be split. The owners wanted families but the properties just weren't done up to that quality."

In the end, the Wrights found a three-bedroom flat for which they pay £330 a week. 'With some storage, we're paying more now than the mortgage cost — but it's a bridging measure,' says Rosie.

London is notorious for high rents. A two-bedroom apartment in central London rents for roughly twice the price of its equivalent in Berlin, Brussels or Paris — another powerful reason to buy. That drive to buy is much more muted on the Continent. "The biggest difference between here and the UK is that to rent in Berlin is much cheaper than buying," says Dominic Wollenweber, a musician with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. He has been renting a spacious four-roomed apartment in Berlin, for two years. "I'm happy and I don't plan to change,' he says. 'I pay around £400 a month; to buy would cost me perhaps £135,000." Indeed, he says there is encouragement, in the form of tax relief, to invest in rental property; but he would not receive any tax break if he bought an apartment for his own use. "Anyway, I prefer to live in a rented place because I don't have all the responsibility."

Patrick Bullick at Humberts says it's common in European cities for entire buildings to be owned by, for example, pension funds. "They're not looking for the same rental yields. They are happy with five per cent. In London people were getting 8-10 per cent up to a year ago, though since then prices have gone up much faster than rent."

What's the prognosis for British renters? "It's becoming socially acceptable to rent," says Ms Parr Head. "There is a trend of younger people staying in rented accommodation and not jumping on the buying bandwagon even now it's picked up again. They have memories of fingers burned in the 80s."

But the allure of ownership remains, and unless price and quality are widely transformed, renting seems set to remain the poor relation in British eyes.

FAITH GLASGOW

HERTFORDSHIRE, Rickmansworth. **Price Guide: £895,000**
A house in delightful grounds adjoining Moor Park Golf course. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, reception hall, kitchen, garden, heated swimming pool, changing room and double garage. About 0.4 ha (1 acre).
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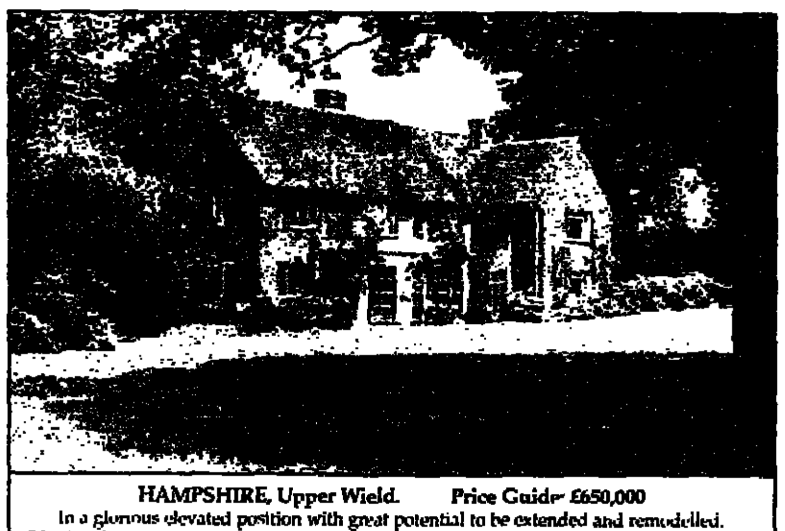
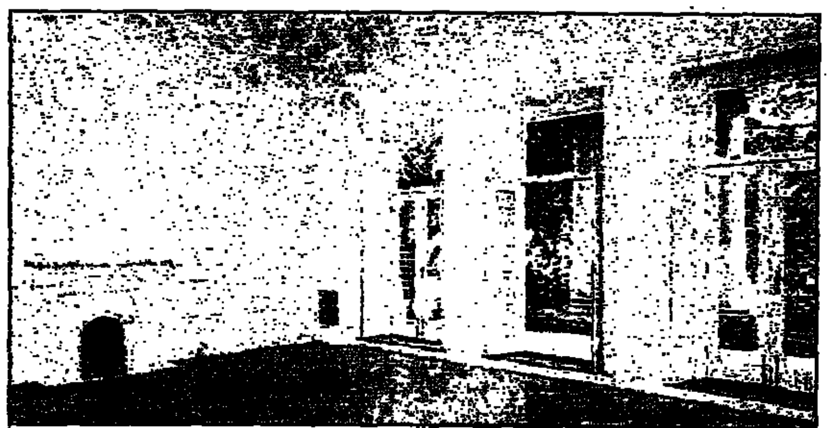
SURREY, East Molesey. **Freehold** **Price Guide: £475,000**
A double fronted Victorian house (circa 1850) convenient to local amenities and Hampton Court Station. 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, study/bed 7, cellars, cloakroom/shower room, double garage, parking and 30m (100') garden.
WIMBLEDON: 0181-944 7172

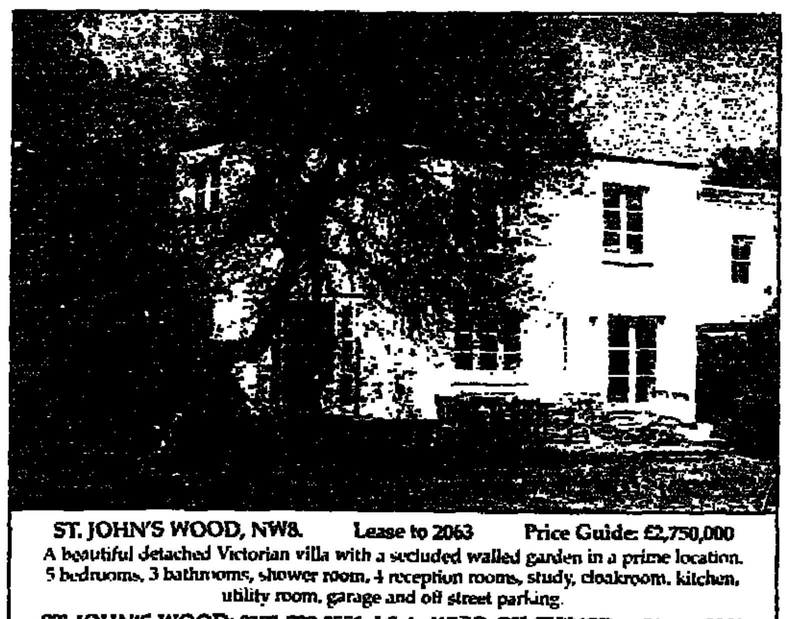


HAMPSHIRE, Upper Wield. **Price Guide: £650,000**
In a glorious elevated position with great potential to be extended and remodelled. 5 beds, 2 baths, 4 receps, 2 clkrms, kitchen, garden, tennis court, swimming pool, garaging, stables and parkland paddock. About 2.53 ha (6.25 acres).
WINCHESTER: 01962 863131

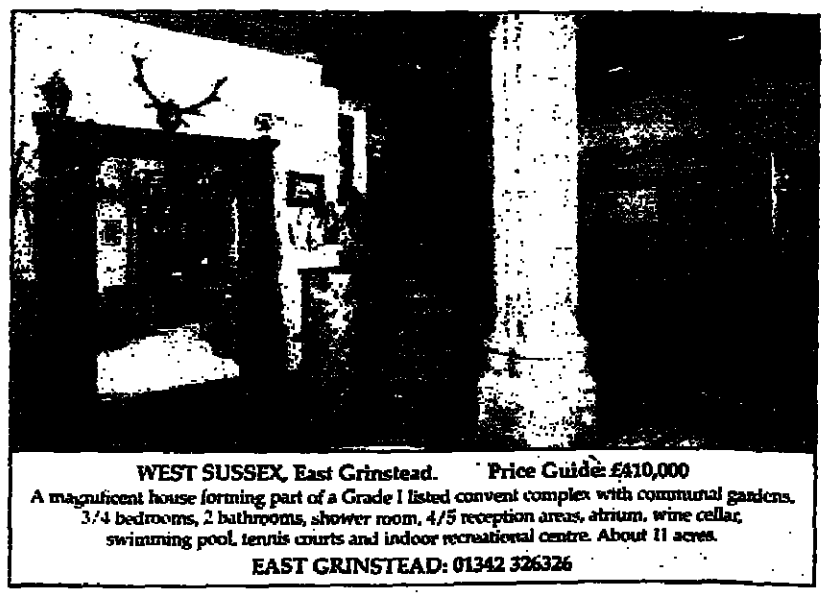


SOUTH KENSINGTON, SW7. **Lease to 2109** **£1,300,000 with flat £1,175,000 without.**
An outstanding newly refurbished maisonette on the ground, mezzanine and 1st floors with a 1 bedroom self-contained flat. 3/4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2/3 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom and terrace.
KENSINGTON: 0171-727 0705

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, Padbury. **Price Guide: £260,000**
An attractive thatched cottage in an elevated position with landscaped gardens. Ground floor master bedroom and bathroom, 2/3 further bedrooms, 3/4 reception rooms, conservatory, cloakroom, kitchen, double garage and outbuildings.
OXFORD: 01865 311522



ST. JOHN'S WOOD, NW8. **Lease to 2063** **Price Guide: £2,750,000**
A beautiful detached Victorian villa with a secluded walled garden in a prime location. 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, shower room, 4 reception rooms, study, cloakroom, kitchen, utility room, garage and off street parking.
ST. JOHN'S WOOD: 0171-722 5556 J.S.A. KERR-GILCHRIST: 0171-431 0003



WEST SUSSEX, East Grinstead. **Price Guide: £410,000**
A magnificent house forming part of a Grade I listed convent complex with communal gardens. 3/4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower room, 4/5 reception areas, atrium, wine cellar, swimming pool, tennis courts and indoor recreational centre. About 11 acres.
EAST GRINSTEAD: 01342 326326

MIDDLESEX, Northwood. **Price Guide: £575,000**
A charming and well presented house with views over Merchant Taylors School grounds. 5 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, garden room, garage, landscaped garden and close to Moor Park Station.
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NORTH OF THE THAMES

BAKER ST, 2 bed flat, new kit, bath, clkrm, lift, p/b blk, porter. £196,000. 0171 724 9919

BARGAINS. Repossessions and Reduced for quick sale props. Capital Property Lists. 7 days 10am-10pm 0171 838 1104.

EAST CANONBURY, N1. A four storey mid- 19thC terraced house with 5 bedrms, 2 receps, kitch/diner, bathrm, utility/wc, garden. Period features. Tel: 0171 354 0064. F/H. £299,500.

HIGHGATE 2 bed flat 1st floor, fully modernised, garage, long lease, vacant. £179,950. Tel: 0181 341 3007. No agents.

MARBLE ARCH Macready House. Lux p/b blk, lifts, port, gym, jacuzzi, 3 bed 2 bath pkg space £340,000 0171 724 9919

NW New refurb 4 storey house 30ft. S/ gdn. 27ft recep. 17ft kit/dinr family rm, utility rm, 4 dble beds, 2 baths. £565,000. 0171-435 0019. 0976 276665

NOTTING HILL unusual 1/2 bed flat in period bldg £150,000 Westways 0171 792 2167.

PIMLICO Attractive 2 bed apart in quiet location, close River & tube £127500 0171 2219044 t

W2 bright & spac 3 bed top flr mais in period bldg £225,000 Westways 0171 792 2167.

W14 Brook Green, garden flat, 1 bed + spare/breakfast room, £129,000 Tel: 0171 371 3515/0589 951474

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Secluded luxury penthouse. Top 2 floors of p/b block. lift; 2 beds; 2 baths (1 en suite). kitchen, dining room, drawing room. Porter, secure garage space. Underground 5 mins. Lease 61yrs renewable. Offers over £475,000.

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£249,000

Tel: Mr Cody. 0181 8646520 (Office hours)

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Unusually attractive, light, spacious, S. facing flat in Grade II Dutch style building in unique, tree lined, grassy Conservation area square. Direct access into own secluded 40ft gdn. Rec, kit/din, 2 dbl bdrms, bthrm, shwr rm, GCH.

£170,000

Viewing by appointment only. 0171 249 2504

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

BALHAM SW12 Edge of Hyde Farm Estate, Double fronted grnd flr mais, 3 beds, recep, kit/breakfast rm, large bathrm/ WC, GCH, gardens £132,500. Lg Lee, Price & Co 0181 673 3346

CLAPHAM attractive 2 bed period appt, nr common & tube. £95,000. 0171 2219044.

CROYDON, Mais s/c 2 flats, refurbishment req hence £52,450. Quick sale, 0181 773 9280

EAST SHEEN/RICHMOND PARK Built on the former Estate of the Temple Grove Manor House detached 4 bedroom, double fronted home with period features, garage, 3 receptions, kitchen & private rear garden. O.I.R.O £575,000. Barnard Marcus 0181 876 0152

GIPSY HILL Det period 4 bed, 4 recep hse, gdn. Nr BR & amenities. £269,950. 0181 693 3456

SW4 CLAPHAM gdn flt 2 beds, bright spac, gd location, GCH, own entrance, entry phne, shrs F/H, £135,000 0171 622 4223

WEST PUTNEY large Edwardian family house, full of character. Flexible accomodation. Garage. Gardeners garden. Corner site. £395,000 Tel: 0181 788 3390

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2 bedroom, luxury flat
1 fitted wardrobes, Fully fitted kitchen, Posture bathroom, separate shower, Sunny balcony overlooking private courtyard. Good decorative order throughout. Sharing free hold 5 minute walk London Bridge, also close to Tower Hill tube £150,000

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CLAPHAM NORTH SW9

Beautifully restored Victorian terrace house. Within easy walking distance to Tube station and Clapham High street. Double reception, kitchen/ diner 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cellar. Many original features. Mature SW facing garden. *Offers in excess of £215,000.*

Tel: 0171 379 1373 (day) or 0171 787 9758 (after 6pm)

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Beautiful semi detached 4 bedroom house. Recently decorated, fully carpeted throughout. 32' lounge, FF kitchen, dining room and downstairs shower room, tiled bathroom, separate toilet with basin. Off street parking for 2 cars + garage. Approx 60' established garden with pond. For quick sale £188,500. NO CHAIN.

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Unmodernised 3 storey Victorian link terraced house in premier tree lined road with 50 foot South West facing garden would make 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 receptions.

Guide price £395,000

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0171 207 4466

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Tastefully refurbished 3 storey modern townhouse. Off street pkg. fabulous 60ft garden, 2 bathrooms, 3 bedrooms, reception, off Nightingale Lane close to Tube.

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Vanstons 0181 673 4377

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Luxury ground floor 2 double bedroom flat with own South facing garden. Fully fitted modern kitchen. Huge rooms, GCH including 35ft reception room. Burglar alarm and window locks. Large modern walk in shower. Quiet non throughroad. Easy parking, 5 mins tube. Must View to appreciate. OIRO £129,000.

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Purpose built block, 5 mins BR & 10 min Tube/Bus. 2 bed flat on 4th floor, 2 baths (1 incl jacuzzi), FF kitchen, open plan lounge/dining room with 5th floor views, roof terrace with panoramic views with lift, off street parking (gge avail). Dbl glazed, GH glazed & CH. 99 year lease, £189,000 NO CHAIN, NO AGENTS 0171 381 9826

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BLACKHEATH

A delightful and particularly attractive double fronted 3 storey, 4 bedroom residence C.1860, set in quiet tree-lined road, 3 mins walk to village.

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BLOOMSBURY 3 bed, 2 reception Duplex flat. Garden. John St. £295,000. Hanford, Salvi, Carr. 0171 250 1012.

BLOOMSBURY Studio flat, private patio. £72,500. Hanford, Salvi, Carr. 0171 250 1012.

CHARTERHOUSE SQ. 6th floor studio flat, roof terrace, swimming pool. £95,000. Hanford, Salvi, Carr. 0171 250 1012.

CLERKENWELL 2 bed penthouse with lge west facing terrace £215,000. Frank Harris & Co 0171 600 7000

EDGWARE RD W2 4 bed room, 1,500 sq ft mansion in quiet Marylebone St. 280K. 0171 371 6721 For Details T.Hopkins

GERMAN STREET St James's studio flt, CH, all mod cons L/H 89 yrs £120k 0171 2231878

WC1 2 bed, 2nd flr, ex-local blk, GCH, long lease, £115,000. Bunbury & Bell 0171 833 4466.

WC1 2 Bed Victorian Apt. Original Features, Close Covent Gdn £166,000. 0171 2219044 t

WC1 Studio, 3rd flr, port blk, sep kit, 2 lifts, £82,000 Bunbury and Bell 0171 833 4466.

W1 FITZROY ST 2 bed flats for sale fr £250K or/and for rental fr £400 pw. 0171 287 1118

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KEN CHURCH ST Tiny top floor (no lift) 1 bedroom flat. 990 years lease. Low service charge. £135,000. Tel: 0171 937 3906 / 0171 937 1938.

KEN HIGH St Lge ex artists studio Cott + potential £425,000. Westways 0171 792 2167.

KENS W8 2nd floor 1 bed flat in portered block, comm gdns. 17' recep & off Street parking L/H £129,000 Aaron & Lewis 0171 244 9911t 244 9838t

LITTLE BOLTONS SW10 excellent 2nd/3rd fl mais, 1875sq. feet (gross) approx, 4 beds, dble reception, kit/b/fast rm, 3 bath, (2 en suite) shwr rm, clk rm, fnd CH, LH 40yrs +. £700,000. Gerald Kay 0171 823 3113.

W. KENSINGTON superb 1 bed flt, large recep, red price quick sale, £122,000 0171 603 9737

COLLINGHAM GARDENS SW5

Very bright modern lower ground flat situated at rear of building with roof terrace and access to private gardens. Double bedroom, reception room Fully fitted kitchen. Building recently refurbished internally and externally. Lease 122 years. £149,000.

Tel: 0171 259 2484

KENSINGTON OLYMPIA

Large 4 double bedroomed top floor flat, balcony, 2 bathrooms, diner kitchen, utility room, large living room, sunny and quiet, overlooking park, communal gardens, V well maintained, v low service chg, long lease + share F/hold

£495,000

(DAY) 0171 439 1050

SW10

Large Terraced House.

Open plan - 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double recep room, family room, kitchen, laundry room, study, storage room, cellar, garden. Freehold

Priv sale £875,000

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An offer has been received in the sum of £2,400,000 subject to contract for a substantial freehold house. Any other genuine offers for this property should be made in writing by noon 31st July 1997, quoting Ref. WPG/PW/AM

Tel: 0171 581 3771
Fax: 0171 584 2731

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NOTTING HILL W11, a lge period conversion in contemporary style, in quiet tree lined st. dble recp rm, 3 dble beds, bath rm, 60ft gdn, terr. FH. £475,000 Hamiltons 0171 792 4330.

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Pretty maisonette with large South facing terrace directly onto garden square, permit parking. Between Brompton Road and Hyde Park, 2 beds, 2baths, reception, dining room, large hall.

£340,000.

0171 584 3817

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private sale

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Cntry residence set in 5 Acres o/look the Darenth Valley, superbly maintained comprising of 3 recep, 3 bath, 5 f/f bed, a 22x15y 22ft kit & ut rm. Games room, dressing rm & 5th bed, every room with views. Burglar & Fire alm. landscaped grounds with S/Pool & Bowling Green. Private drive protected by elgates. Situated on the edge of the vge.Easy reach of M/ways & BR. 7 mls to Twks. 15 mls to London. offers to £725,000

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Det property in pvt rd, gas CH. master bed with s/s bathrm, 3/4 further beds, sewing rm, loft rm/bed 5, family bath, 3 receps, hobbies rm/sun loggia, kit, utility, cloaks, dble & sgle gge's. Gdn approx 145' x 62' Carriage Drive London 25 mins (BR) £395,000.

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Freehold FF 1.8 million

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IRELAND

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WEST CORK Eyeries, attr prop, sea views on c. 175 acres, abuts river, opt 2 living units on c 3,000 sq ft, 5 beds, 2 kit, 5 receps, conserv, sauna, garage, workshop Foley's, (00353) (64) 42165

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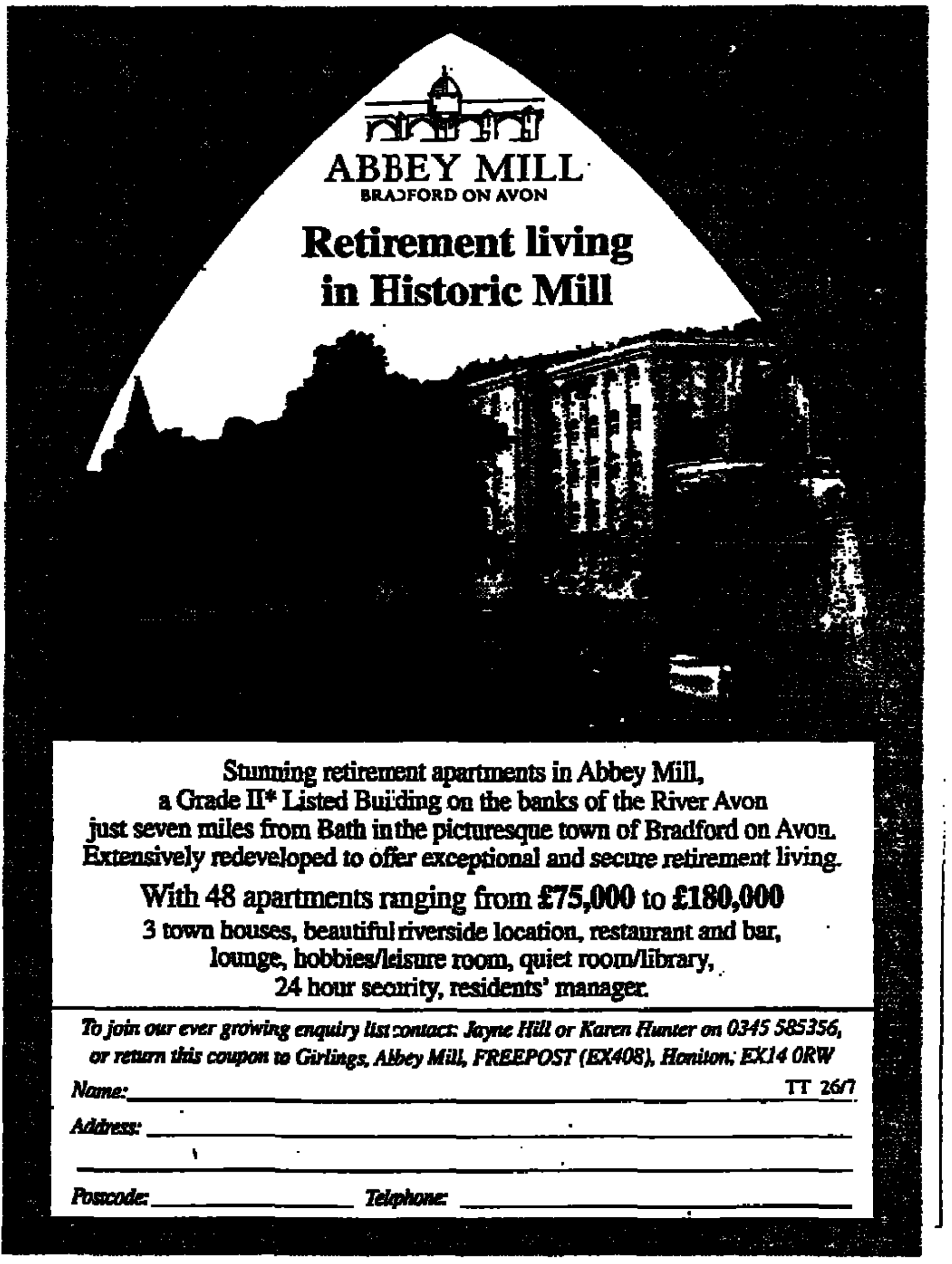
RETIREMENT HOMES



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Lanzarote Beach Club	Lanzarote	Aug/Sept	2	High	6	1695
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هكذا من الأصل

Gone are the days of black and white. Today's clergy prefer to wear striking colours and vibrant designs

Surplice to requirements

From the pews of the country church of Great Ayton there is a fine view of cooling towers, chemical plants and flare stacks. Not through the windows of this North Yorkshire church, but embroidered on the priestly stole of the Rev Geoff Jaques.

The newly ordained Mr Jaques wanted his stole to reflect his career in industry. His cooling towers may raise clergy eyebrows, but they are part of a real attempt to brighten up religious vestments.

Ever since Dr Carey had his enthronement robes designed with television viewers in mind in 1992, clergy robes have become "louder". Getting the message across is now done via the wardrobe as well as the pulpit. Last month there was even a televised fashion show for ministers.

A handful of top ecclesiastical embroiderers is turning out albs, stoles, chasubles and copes which combine traditional symbolism with bespoke preferences — anything from butterflies to the pet dog which one of Jacquie Binns's customers wanted included in his Creation cope.

"His dog was part of God's creation, so I worked from a photograph and managed to incorporate a good likeness," says the London-based designer whose work is distinctive for its 3-D effect, achieved by ruching and layering up to six depths of fabric.

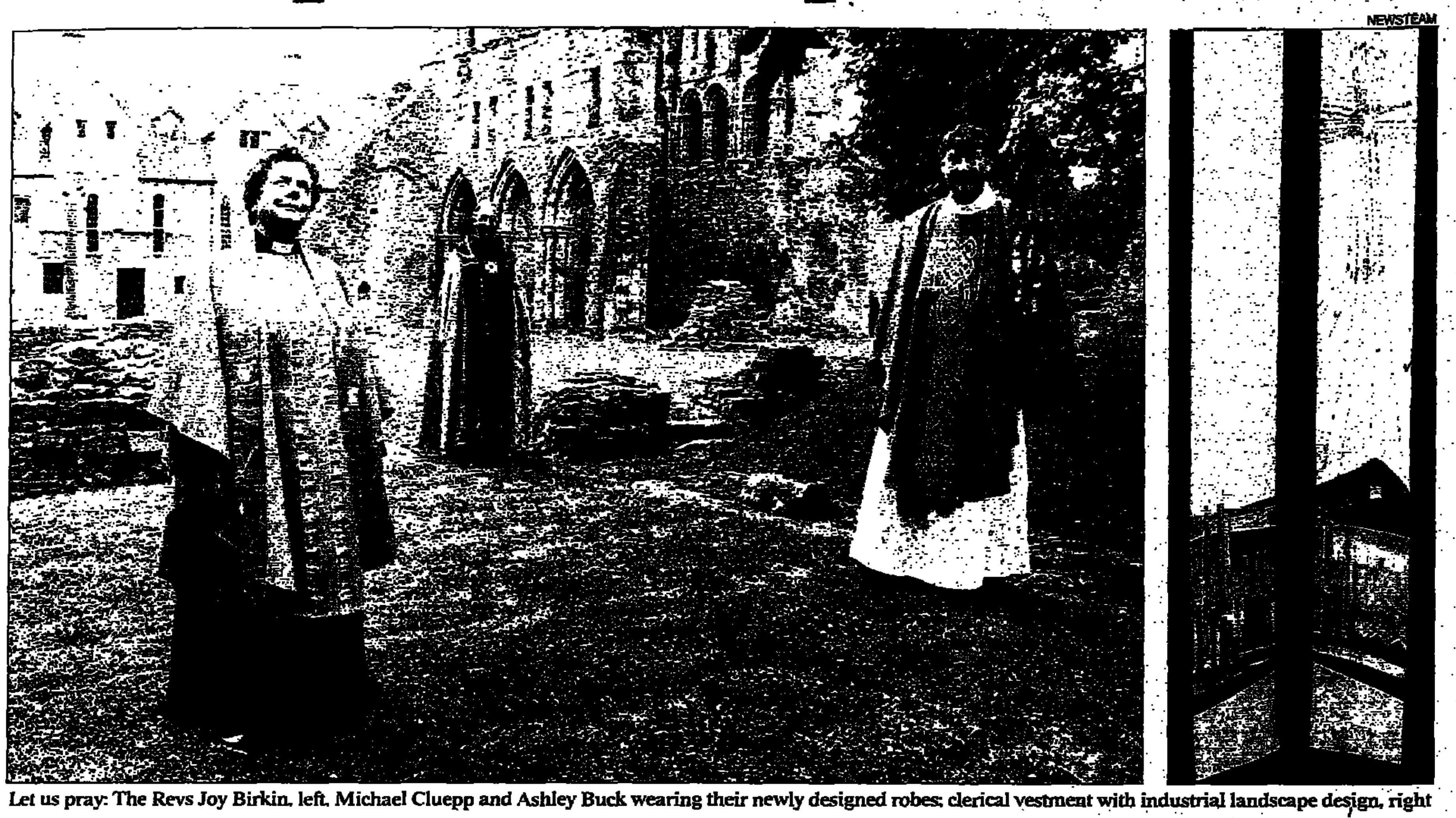
Her influences range from Giotto to Francis Bacon and she uses her sewing machine and fabrics "as a painter would his brush and paints", she says. "People respond to art."

The Rev Val Hamer, vicar of St Mildred's Church at Addiscombe, Surrey, wore one of Ms Binns's chasubles, depicting a huge harrowing scene of hell, for the fashion show.

She says: "People read less and are much more visually oriented these days. These clothes can speak to them."

Her inspiration for the harrowing scene came from a wall painting at the medieval church of St Peter and St Paul in Chaldon, Surrey, in her former parish.

She says butterflies are a favourite symbol for women priests, because of their association with new life.


NEWSTEAM

Let us pray: The Revs Joy Birkin, left, Michael Cluepp and Ashley Buck wearing their newly designed robes; clerical vestment with industrial landscape design, right

The idea of the priestly new look is to make faith relevant by using a return to medieval ideas of picture power. What it says about standards of literacy may be depressing, but the embroidery is undeniably gorgeous.

Gospatric Home, who runs the Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park, Surrey, and organised last month's fashion show, pinpoints the effect of colour television and colour printing on our lives.

"We are entering a new colourful era now," he says. "We are up against declining congregations, and the last thing we want is to appear drab and dull. These vestments are a marvellous way of talking to people. The Archbishop of Canterbury showed the way."

The designer of that famous robe — which caused almost as much hoo-hah as the Princess of Wales's wedding dress — was Juliet Hemingray, who may be the only ecclesiastical embroiderer in the country with her own web site.

"I was asked to come up with a design which had a symbolic message and would draw the attention of people watching the ceremony at home," she says. The result was a riot of purple, red, orange, yellow and gold flames, rhinestones and metallic cord. And lots of front-page coverage.

The designers say their "new look" work is being commissioned by both Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy, and by young and old. The Rev Andrew Roberts, a minister with the normally soberly-clad Methodist church, turned to Ms Hemingray when he wanted something which would look a little jollier on wedding photographs than his usual lounge suit.

Mr Roberts, 34, who is minister at Methodist churches in Wordsley and Kingswinford near Wolverhampton, used money left to him by his grandmother, a seamstress and churchgoer.

He opted for a black suit, fashionably cut in the high-necked Edwardian-style, with lavishly embroidered lapels.

Gold stripes represent God's light breaking into the darkness and, with weddings in mind, a blue and purple design symbolises the turning of water into wine.

"The response has amazed me. After it was on television, a couple of builders laying a path offered to be my agent," he laughs. "All sorts of people — staff in the bank, the girls in the hairdresser's — have shown an interest in our church. It would have taken years of careful relationship-building to achieve this without the suit. It's all about communication."

The man who designed the cooling-towers stole is Brendon Quinn, proprietor of Croft Design in Much Wenlock, Shopshire, where the top price for a stole is about £250.

A former chorister and server, who works in the shadow of the ruined St Milburga's Priory, he is an authority on vestments.

"One source of inspiration is traditional — the colours and the symbols which have been handed down," he says. Advent and Lent, for example, have the penitential colours of blue, purple or sackcloth. White and gold are the colours of the resurrection. Green is for the Trinity and red for the martyrs. The saints have their symbols, often representing the way they died.

Other traditional motifs are lilies for the Virgin; the letters A and M intertwined for Ave Maria; Celtic, Ionian, Tau and Franciscan crosses; and the Greek letters alpha and omega.

"We have so much of our own symbolism that we tend not to look at other fashion worlds for designs, though we do for fabrics," says Mr Quinn. "The other source of inspiration is the customer, who may want to include aspects of his or her life and ministry. Everything is individual. What you want you can have. Yes, even cooling towers."

Mr Jaques, who was ordained a minister in secular employment, still works for ICI in Wilton, Teesside, and sees his ministry as being in the chemical company as well as the rural parish of Great Ayton, just south of Middlesbrough.

Behind the industrial scene on his stole are hills representing the North York Moors. Above the hills stands a cross.

"God is in all these areas," says Mr Jaques. "Not just in the cross, not just in the rural scene, but in the industrial workplace. There has been a broadening of the people's perception of where their ministry lies.

"Church vestments are an opportunity to say what your ministry is, to build a bridge from the stone building of the church to the community."

And it will be a great talking point when taking tea with the vicar.

JILL PARKIN

Help your pet grow old gracefully

A few sensible rules for diet and exercise can extend the life of your pet and improve its quality

When does a pet begin to feel the advance of old age? For cats it is considered to be around ten years, for horses 15 years and for dogs it depends on breed. In general, the bigger the breed the shorter the lifespan — a Great Dane can be elderly at eight while a Jack Russell can remain fit and active up to 15 and beyond.

John Bower, co-author of *The Dog Owner's Veterinary Handbook* and a former British Veterinary Association president, says today's pets have a far greater chance of living longer, healthier lives than ever before. He said: "Just as more humans are now living to the age of 100, increasing numbers of animals are reaching and exceeding natural lifespans. This is due to immense recent advances in veterinary care. We have far better surgical techniques — even cataracts can be remedied today — and safer anaesthetics. We also have faster and more efficient tests for early diagnosis and prompt treatment of things like liver and kidney problems. We have better drugs for heart conditions, diabetes and arthritis and more effective chemotherapy for cancers."

A third of this country's pets are considered elderly but many owners seem unaware of what they can do — in terms of diet and health monitoring — to prolong their animals' lives. More disturbing is the proportion who are too terrified of hearing bad news to take their pet to the vet.

Mr Bowers says: "I cannot tell you how often people delay taking a sick older animal to the vet for fear that it will be put to sleep," he says. "By the time they get to us, they often have animals with incurable diseases which could have been cured or stabilised if they'd come earlier."

He recommends that, from the age of about eight, cats and dogs should have a health check every six months rather than every year: "Often, during routine checks, we can spot potentially big problems like internal tumours and treat them early, or remove a tooth that was giving an old dog a lot of pain and give him a new lease of life." A good insurance policy is one way of coping with the costs of an older pet. However, you may have to shop around — many insurers will not take on elderly dogs and cats.

Preventative measures should be taken to prevent sickness. Obesity is an obstacle to longevity in animals, causing health problems from diabetes and heart conditions to arthritis and increased anaesthetic risk.

Unspayed and un-neutered animals face particular health hazards in older age. In bitches, and female cats this can mean mammary tumours or pyometra, a hormonally-induced womb infection — usually because they have never given birth — which can be fatal. Older dogs who have not been castrated can suffer prostate and anal tumours.

Older cats are particularly prone to kidney disease and hyperthyroidism: a condition where excess thyroid hormones, usually as a result of a tumour, play havoc with the cat's metabolic rate. Cats with pink-fleshed ears and noses are also highly susceptible to skin cancer in later life.

SALLY ANNE THOMPSON

Owners should make sure that older pets have a health check every six months

Mr Bower recommends a checklist of symptoms in older animals that should be a trigger to seek veterinary advice should they persist for no obvious reason. These are sudden weight gain or loss, increased thirst, change in behaviour, loss of appetite, persistent vomiting or diarrhoea and foul breath. It is also worth checking teeth for decay and skin for lumps and bumps, and note the onset of any wheezing and growing intolerance to exercise.

Owners can soften the psychological impact of old age on pets. Mr Bower says: "People often say older animals get clingy, but this is because they feel more vulnerable. Persistent pain or failing sight and hearing makes them more dependent so you need to be understanding. You need to treat them like you would treat your granny."

CAROL PRICE

- *The Dog Owner's Veterinary Handbook* by John Bower & David Youngs (Crowood £12.99). *Caring for your Older Cat* by Chris Pinney (Barron's, £6.50).
- *For a free leaflet on pet insurance contact the Association of British Insurers on 0171-600 3333.*

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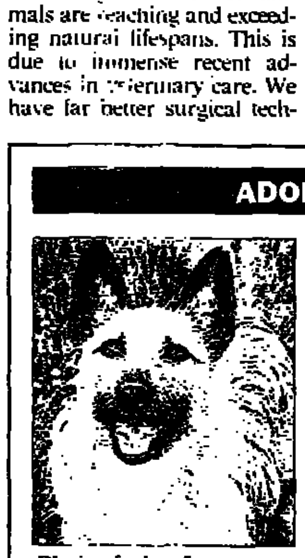

Pip is afraid of strangers

PIP, a two-year-old tan terrier-cross, has been at Newbury for four months. He is nervous and is afraid of loud noises and strangers, and so needs an understanding owner who lives in a quiet environment.

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A VET WRITES

Q **You recently replied to a reader who had bought a spaniel with an inturned eyelash, saying she might not have "been sold a pup" if her vet had examined the dog before cash changed hands. We bought a schnauzer from a reputable breeder and our vet examined her and found nothing untoward. When she was eight months old she collapsed and tests showed a defect in her pulmonary artery. She was operated on, but died. The insurance we had taken out excluded congenital problems — which this was. So, two messages. Pre-purchase examinations are not foolproof and it's essential to read the exclusion clauses before taking out pet health insurance.**

A I'm sorry to hear of your experience. A pre-purchase examination can never be 100-per-cent foolproof but I still believe it's worthwhile getting a professional opinion before buying an animal. Faults present at the time of examination can usually be found but only a crystal ball can tell what's going to happen six months later.

Small print doesn't change, so read that twice — and find a better policy.

JAMES ALLCOCK

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هكذا عن الأصل

'Reading your own column is a bit like listening to your own voice on a tape recorder — "Who is this person?" you ask yourself'

Forget real life — I prefer fiction

LIFE AND SOUL

GINNY DOUGARY

Le tout Battersea is talking about it. Apparently there is a new report which says that the area we live in — between Wandsworth and Clapham commons — has the highest concentration of young children in the whole of the European Union. Scary thought. Soon Kid Power, which is clearly on the rise, will be totally out of control and we parents of south London will be the first in the firing line.

It is therefore a matter of some relief — since my sons' friends are my most avid readers, relaying a weekly critique of "Call that a job?", "What a crap thing to say" and "*Sad*" — that this will be my last column for some time. Come the revolution, I would be picked out as a propagandist for the Old Guard. Off with her head, the enfant infantry would cry. It is perhaps just as well that the head in question bears only a passing resemblance to the mug in the shot.

Much has been written about the vanity of columnists who adorn their words with a photograph of a more youthful, svelte and handsome (the male of the species being no less culpable) version of themselves. I once interviewed a stroppy scribbler who had been foolish enough to write, in her amphetamine-fuelled skinny youth long, long ago, that she would rather have cancer than be fat. Since her curves have inflated to the ample side of sufficiency, I asked her why she persisted in using a photograph of herself as a hollow-cheeked punkette. "Well, it beats going on a diet, doesn't *it*?" she squeaked. It is only now that I appreciate the wit of her observation.

A flattering photograph is by no means the only form of disguise behind which a columnist can hide. There have been times during the past six months when I have felt like Daniel Day-Lewis "living" one of his cinematic characters. Instead of being a Mohican or a launderettist or a left-foot writer, I have almost begun to believe that I *am* the slightly deranged, Edina-esque figure who has made the odd guest appearance in this slot.

Reading your own column is a bit like listening to your own voice on a tape recorder — "Who is this person?" you ask yourself. "I don't really sound like that, do I?" The magnifying glass of the columnist inevitably has a distorting effect on the people in one's life: the characters reduced to one or two of their salient traits which are then grotesquely exaggerated for the entertainment of the reader. Thus my husband has transmogrified into a pinny-wearing Superdad, our older son into a pompous swot, and his younger brother into a baby delinquent. By bringing them to life on the page, they have ended up bearing as much resemblance to reality as fiction.

One of the spookier aspects of column-life is that it can start to dictate your everyday life. No sooner had I written about my longing to escape the relentless grind of domesticity for an Arctic adventure than — stuff of the Twilight Zone — I was on a plane bound for the North Pole. After I wrote about going to my first gig for a decade, I began to find the idea of becoming a full-time clubber weirdly irresistible. This was not the real me talking, you understand, but the invented me: the trouble is that it is becoming increasingly difficult to tell them apart. Goodness knows what havoc will ensue when I embark on my next project.

The beauty of a novel, of course, is that when you tell people it is all made up they feel obliged to believe you. I will no longer have to apologise to everyone I have wittingly — or, more usually, unwittingly — offended. And I will no longer hear that tiresome little phrase, "Don't put this in your column, will you?"

Most people have been remarkably good-humoured about their involuntary appearances. The boys' headmaster was only slightly put out when I wrote that his performance as MC at the spring term's Quiz Night was eerily reminiscent of Bruce Forsyth. He stopped me outside the school gates to say, shaking his head mournfully, "I wouldn't have minded, except that I'd always modelled myself on Clint Eastwood."

At the foot of my desk is a fat file of unanswered letters from readers who have been kind enough to write in. And I do mean *kind*. Most journalists' work is like sending a message in a bottle, not knowing whether anyone out there has received it. It has been a small revelation to discover that there is a relationship between writer and reader.

While I have pontificated on the differences between women and men, it may interest you to know that as many men have written in as women. This suggests — rather happily — that family matters matter as much to the male of the household as to the female.

The readers of this page are a broad church in the strict sense, too. When I made a passing reference to my spiritual vacuum, Catholics, Buddhists, Muslims and Evangelists all thought they had the answer for me. I had invitations to join several churches, including one from a vicar who asked his congregation to pray for me and my family in our quest for a faith. God — if he exists — be with you, too.

The letters I received when I wrote about my aged aunt, who had been in hospital for months (now househound, but at least in her own home) were incredibly touching. There were so many gestures of goodwill and support; one woman, who had been a nurse before her retirement, despite her own family commitments as a busy grandmother, offered to go up to Edinburgh to help care for her. Kind, as I say.

So, thank you and happy holidays.

A parents' guide to teenspeak

Don't know what a Bessie or a woodger is? You're a sad grundy

MARTIN BEDDALL

Teenagers feel the need to create their own vocabulary that is entirely foreign to adults. Language is the easiest way to distance themselves from the older generation

There was something a little alarming about the crumpled note that had fallen out of my daughter's bag. "Hi Bessie," it said. "Caught you being chirpsed by a right Disco Trevor. Sorry I left Dom's drum early but I was chonged . . ."

What, I wondered as I rummaged through her bag looking for other incriminating letters, was going on? Exactly what kind of sexual activity was *chirpsing*, what or where was *Dom's drum* and who on earth was *Bessie*?

Later that day, using an excuse that betrayed my guilt — "I found this in among your washing" — I produced the note and casually asked after the welfare of Bessie and Disco Trevor. Her derisive laugh echoed through the house. "Surely you realise. I'm Bessie as in best friend and Disco Trevor is a term we use for flash boys in XR3s . . ."

Then why, I whispered, did you *chirpse* him?

Chirpsed, she explained was a term meaning chatting up. And chonged? Tired out. It was, for me, a defining moment. Discovering that your child no longer speaks its mother's tongue is the moment at which you discover that you have become — as my daughter might say — a *grundy* (old person).

Of course, secret language has always been a part of teenage life. As an acned 14-year-old I can remember carefully writing my rather *sad* diaries in a special code in order that only my, er, Bessie would be able to translate them. But I have no recollection of a shared street lingo of the kind currently being practised by my 17-year-old daughter and her friends. For a few months in the early Seventies things were a bit *outasight* and *groovy* but we certainly did not have *Gary Lagers* (Disco Trevor's drunken sidekick) or *woodgers* (idiots).

Indeed, according to a new survey conducted by Dillons and Oxford Dictionaries, a rich language is emerging among 11 to 18-year-olds. More than 800 respondents from around the country revealed a surprising number of crude but expressive words that are so new to the teen vocabulary that it will be many years — if ever — before they will make their way into the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

It is difficult to work out why street slang should have acquired such importance today. Words that indicate to the rest of the world that you do have credibility have slipped in and out of our language for the past 40 years. But the pubescent patois used by my daughter and her contemporaries is much more elaborate.

Traditionally slang developed among groups of people who had a genuine need for a secret code — back-slang (*neves to ruof*, for example, is bookies back-slang for a seven-to-four bet). Rhyming slang and criminal slang were all used as covert ways of communication. And there is good reason to suppose that contemporary adolescents have a similar need to create a teenspeak that is entirely foreign to adults.

The patois used by teenagers these days is baffling

In a way, language represents one of the few routes open for rebellion for the emergent generation. Their parents, after all, are by and large baby-boomers who, in their own youth, *did* "sex, drugs and rock'n'roll. Just as cigarettes *(orchs, chutneys)* have become a largely teenage phenomenon now that they are soundly rejected by health-conscious adults, so language has become a way in which the young can distance themselves from the older generation.

Moreover, as the Dillons/Oxford Dictionaries survey reveals, exponents of this new slang are sometimes very, very young. A friend recently rang me in amazement to tell me how her ten-year-old son had turned to her in the middle of an argument about homework and shouted: "Don't diss me woman."

Curiously, though, many of the words they are using are even older than their grundy parents. Jennie Miell, from Oxford Dictionaries, was astonished to discover that many of the new words in this year's survey had ancient origins.

"It's interesting how other uses of words are being revived among young people. Spoon, for example, which is used as idiot, is recorded in a similar sense in the *Oxford English Dictionary* from 1799," she says.

Drum, as in *Dom's drum*, dates back to the OED of 1846 and means a house (often of ill repute) while *snash* can be traced back to Robert Burns who used it to mean impudent in 1786. Many of the new words have, too, a quite humorous and easily understood meaning — *Merlin* used to mean amazing is clearly the new term for "magic".

The most interesting semantic shift seen in this new language is that from bad to good. Even the most conservative of parents will be aware that *bad* now means good (and *wicked* even better), so the whole thing has had to go one stage further so that you now have to be positively *evil* in order to be passably good.

Which goes some way to explain why this teen language moves so fast. Once words slip into common parlance and anyone over 30 understands them they are redundant.

So, by the time Bessie and Disco Trevor settle down together in the *Oxford English Dictionary*, they will have ceased to be proper teenspeak. And in 25 years', when they are both *grundys*, only they will know what the term means . . .

JANE GORDON

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Wicked
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Nerd
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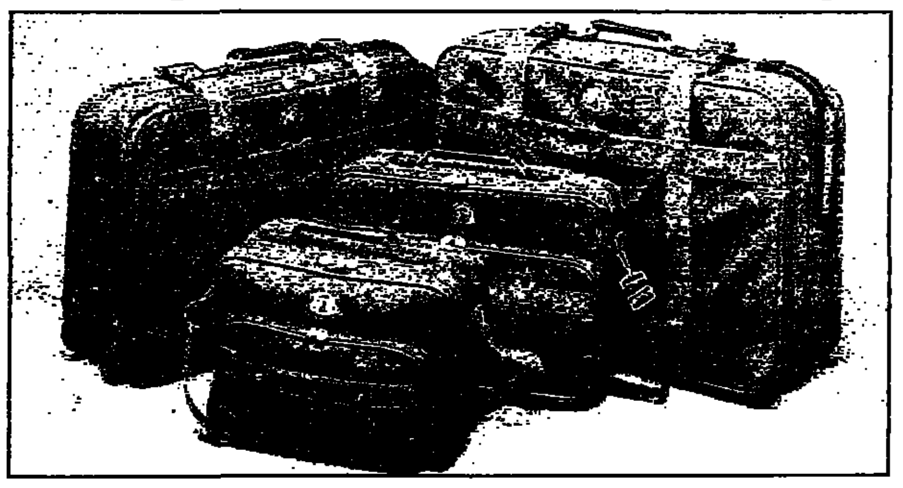

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Ruth Gledhill was moved by the blessing of an inner-city church centre for those in need

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WITH his golden cope and mitre, his stately beard and noble carriage, the Right Rev Richard Chartres is arguably the most bishop-like bishop in Britain. Add to this a formidable intellect and a reputation for eccentricity, and a worshipper's faith in the future of the Church of England can almost be restored.

My meditations along these lines were interrupted when an enormous dollop of holy water landed in my ear. Waving his aspergillum, or holy-water sprinkler, with cheerful, episcopal abandon, the bishop was wandering among the homeless, the refugees, the journalists, Aids sufferers and many others condemned and cast out by society. We were gathered in Holy Cross church near King's Cross station, where he had been summoned to bless the crypt, refurbished to the tune of £150,000.

Bishop Chartres: noble bearing

The crypt is the headquarters of the Holy Cross Centre Trust, one of the many, largely unsung, projects in the Church of England which are doing invaluable work in helping those who have fallen off society's bottom rungs. The trust aims to improve the quality of life for people with mental health problems, drug and alcohol users, the homeless and refugees. The crypt is not a treatment, rehabilitation or advice centre. "Users come to enjoy themselves," says the annual report. And our service was a clear example of that philosophy in practice.

Normally about 30 turn up for Sunday worship, but the church was packed with more than 200 for this blessing service. Many of the professional choir from the West End's St Margaret's had volunteered their time for free, and the anthems were extraordinary and unexpected.

The Rev John Hayward, former curate of Holy Cross and a member of staff of the crypt centre, preached, giving thanks for the centre and its work.

The atmosphere was one of celebration, the smiles of many of the people achieved against the odds and in spite of lives of almost unbelievable tragedy. After the holy water had been sprinkled, after the red ribbon had been cut, and when the cheers had died down, I shook my head to dislodge the water from my ear, and saw the bishop turn to wipe his eye. Whether this was a tear, or a further drop of holy water gone astray, it was impossible to tell.

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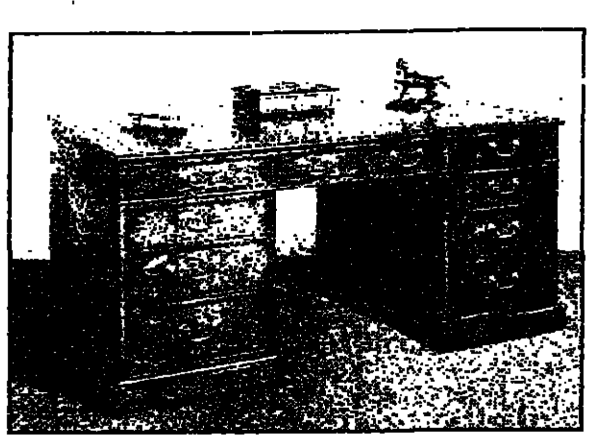

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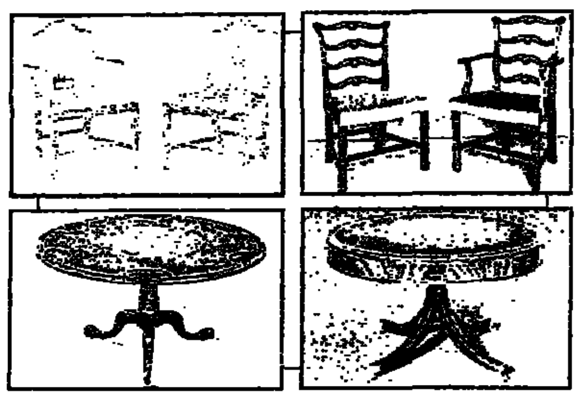

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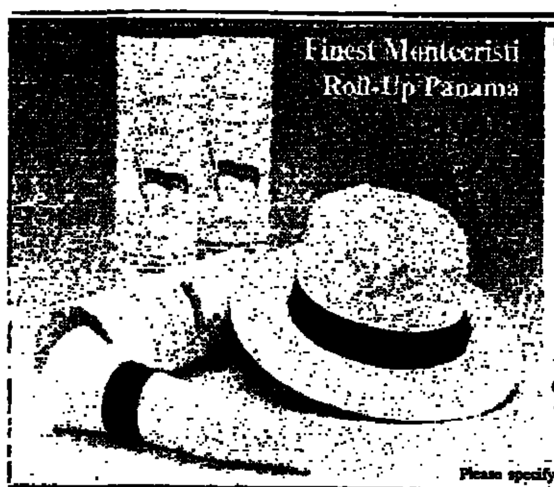

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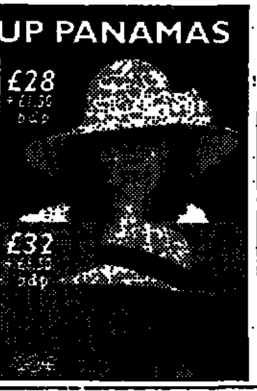

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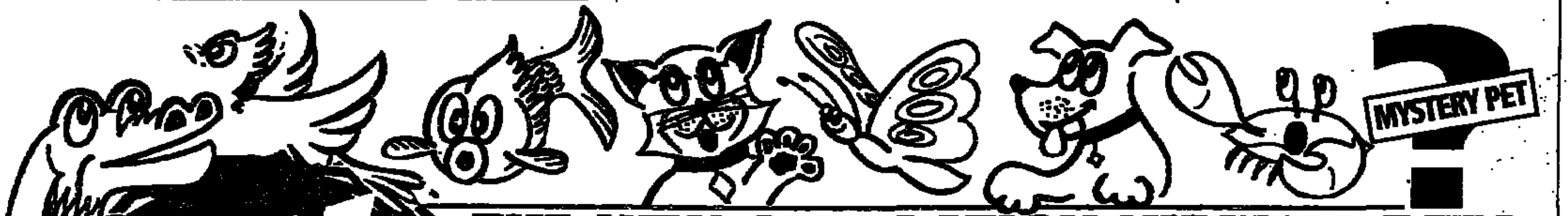

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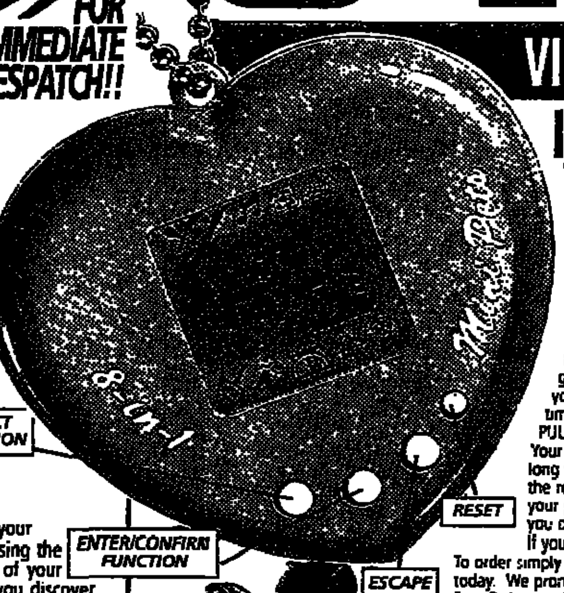

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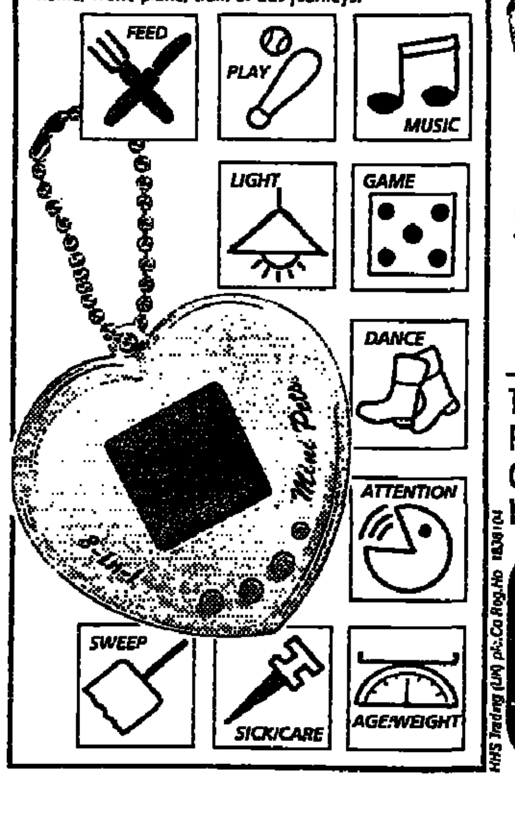

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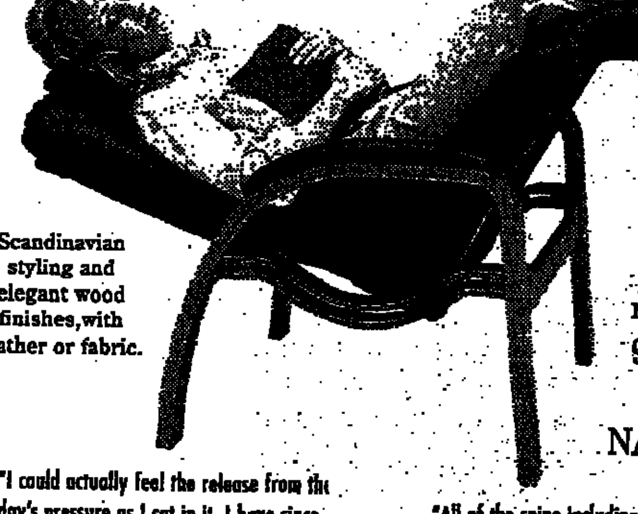

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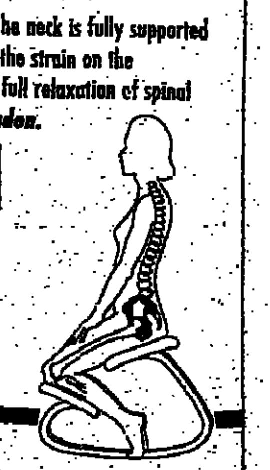

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It may sound corny but, with the Grand Scything Match only a few months away, I desperately need to know how to tie a sheaf-knot

All at sea with a knotty problem

DOWN TO EARTH

PAUL HEINEY

Naval officers and ratings will know that if they wish to insult a shipmate they have only to say of him that "he coils rope like a farmer". Apparently, there is little worse that can be said of a seaman.

Having witnessed at first hand the indescribable tangles of string and rope with which farmers hold together everything from their buildings to their lives, there is clearly far less of the knot-tier's art to be seen around the countryside than at sea.

I suppose it all comes down to a matter of life and death. The knots tied on ships, many of them conceived in the days of sail, are life-savers; knots tied by farmers are often done because some kind of failure has already taken place and the knot is the temporary repair rather than the solution. Hence the common marriage of a broken gate hinge and plastic bale string, which can last years while a new hinge is purchased, if ever. If the string should break, you just get more string — it is not as if the whole of the ship's rigging is suddenly going to come tumbling down about your ears. However, there have been times, when farming, when I felt as though my whole life depended on the knot I had just tied. For example, I used to cart pigs in an old trailer which left a lot to be desired in the security department; the gate hinged down to form a ramp which the pigs would walk up and it was then raised behind them. The problem was keeping it shut. I used a length of rope and tied it up as best I could.

I always knew there was a proper knot for the job and, indeed, being something of a sailor, I own a copy of the definitive *Ashley's Book of Knots*. But there never seemed to be time between the uncertain business of getting pigs into the trailer and setting off to go searching for a large volume and trying to master its contents. So I did what everyone else did, and hoped that a dozen granny knots on top of each other would hold. They always did, but never did I glance in the rear mirror without my heart skipping a beat in case granny and her knot had let me down and my pigs were now grazing the central reservation.

Knots are on my mind at the moment for two reasons. First of all, this is the hay-carting season (unbelievably late, because of a washout June), and also because, as plans are made for our Grand Scything Match, it is becoming clear that the winning team will be the one which can not only master the scythe but also the vital knot that marks the completed job.

Hay first. It is just once every year that I have to pile bales on to a trailer and bring them home for safe-keeping. If I did it once a week, every week of the year, I would no doubt have learnt the proper way to tie the bales down by now. But, because it is an annual event, I always come to it unprepared.

There is a knot which can solve all my problems, I know there is. I have even been shown how to do it, but my idleness has prevented me from ever learning it. The problem is that you need a knot which enables you to haul tightly on the rope to secure the soft and spongy bales to the trailer, and then tie it without allowing any slackness to creep back into the rope. The knot which performs this trick is called, locally, a "dog's leg", and is so effective that it should be brought into the national curriculum because it is of use to anyone who has tried to secure even a modest load on to a car's roof rack.

I know that trying to describe knots in words ranks alongside ventriloquism by radio as one of the pointless arts, but any reasonable attempts I will pass on in the interests of national safety.

Which brings us to scything, and yet another tricky, but vital, knot. In a helpful letter from Steve Ledsham, of the excellent Acton Scott working farm museum in Shropshire, he includes instructions for making sheaves out of standing corn which has been cut with a scythe.

Clearly, cutting the corn is pointless if it cannot be bundled and gathered, and the tradition was that a short rope was made by twisting a few straws, which was wrapped around the sheaf and then knotted in what was known as a corn knot. Have you heard of a corn knot? I have only one reference which occurs in a book called *The Old Farm* by Thomas Hennell. He writes: "[Old farm workers] tie them with rapidity and deftness, though they are often unable to do it deliberately or in material other than straw, and are nearly always totally incapable of explaining the process in words". Hardly encouraging, is it?

The book then goes on to illustrate the point by highlighting the perplexing difference between the Hertfordshire sheaf knot, and the one commonly found on Romney Marsh in Kent.

So this is something of an appeal for help. A definitive description of the "dog's leg" would be very welcome, although I have till this time next year to get it right.

But more urgent is that matter of the corn, or sheaf-knot, which we must master before the scything contest, now only a few months away.

To demonstrate how desperate we are, I might add that we are prepared to set aside our pride and take advice from a naval officer. No countryman has ever made a more generous gesture than that.

● Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

A new flight of locks will open up a beautiful stretch of waterway, cut off and isolated for the past 200 years

BARRY GREENWOOD

The Ribble Link will join the Lancaster Canal to the rest of the country's inland waterways, but hopes of restoring the canal's northern reaches, from Tewitfield, above, remain a dream

Stairway to canal-boat heaven

A new section of canal is to be built linking two main waterways so that, by the turn of the century, it will be possible to drift leisurely down Britain's canals all the way from Lancaster to London and the English Channel.

Design work has already begun on the new stretch of canal and a stairway of nine locks which will provide the vital missing link between the 40-mile stretch of the Lancaster Canal and River Ribble, providing access to the rest of the country's vast inland waterways network.

The locks will open up the Lancaster Canal, one of the most beautiful stretches of water, to thousands of canal cruisers from the South, to whom it has been inaccessible.

"The North-South divide will disappear," says Cliff Fazackerley, chairman of the Ribble Link Trust, which has finally succeeded in turning a dream into reality.

When the Lancaster Canal was built, between 1798 and 1826, it was thought too expensive to join up the two waterways, but an injection of millennium funding providing half of the £5.4 million needed has given the project the green light. The trust is well on its way to raising the rest of the money.

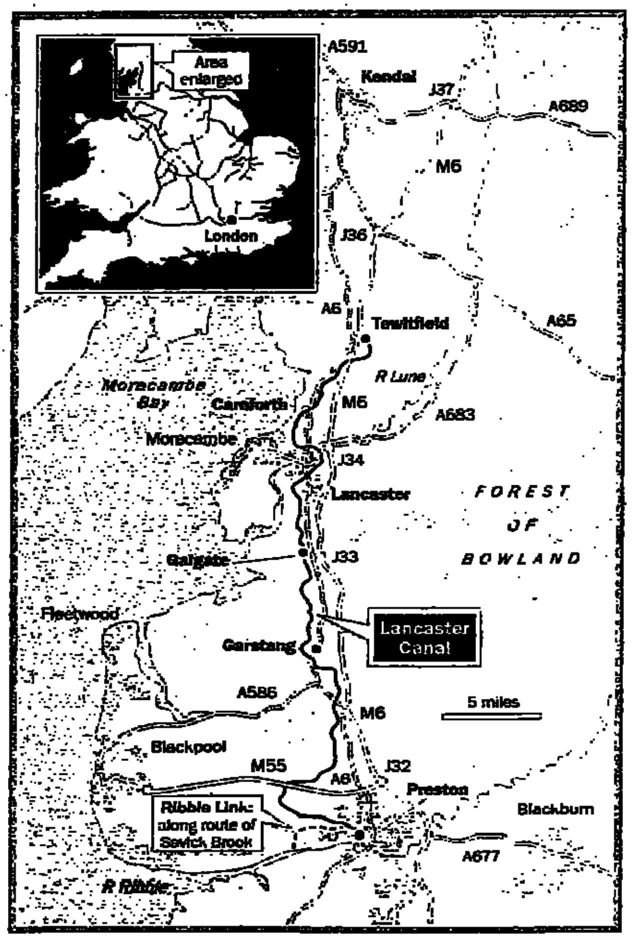
Surveys have been carried out to the satisfaction of conservationists, and work is due to begin next spring. By 2000, many more boats will have access to the Lancaster section, the longest lock-free stretch of canal in the country, passing through areas of outstanding natural beauty and the canalside towns of Garstang, Galgate, Lancaster and Carnforth.

The new link will mean freedom from a cul-de-sac existence for 1,000 or more boats moored along the Lancaster Canal which, for 200 years, has come to an abrupt end near the Ribble near Preston. Although they can reach the Irish Sea at Glasson Dock via a single branch, they have been cut off from the rest of the country's intricate waterway system.

The link will play an important part in opening up the area to tourism and the leisure industry. In the past, the canal was used by boats carrying from Lancashire to Cumbria, and limestone on the return journey. But because the cost of building an aqueduct over the Ribble was prohibitive, cargo had to be unloaded on to a horse-drawn tramway which ran across the river on a trestle bridge.

Long after cargo boats disappeared there were several attempts to join the two sections of the canal. In 1984 the Ribble Link Trust was formed and has since recruited members from the boating community throughout the UK.

It proposed to create the missing link by using Savick Brook which passes under the canal and flows into the Ribble. The locks will lower the water level from the canal to the river by 17.5 metres.



"We are completing a piece of history," says Mr Fazackerley. "It was always intended that the canal should run from Wigan to the Lake District. It has taken 200 years for us to provide the missing link."

Plans include creating facilities for anglers and ramblers, transforming an overgrown and underused area of land into a wildlife corridor.

The new link will provide access to the Preston Marina. And if another group of waterways activists, the Northern Reaches Restoration Group, has its way, the journey will finally end not at Tewitfield — where the canal was severed by the M6 in 1968 — but a further nine miles north at Kendal in the Lake District.

The group is chaired by Hal Bagot, whose family has owned Levens Hall, near Kendal, for 700 years. Mr Bagot recalls tales of summer Sunday trips aboard a canal boat from Kendal to the picnic grounds of Levens Park.

Since the motorway was extended to carry thousands of tourists to the Lake District, that has been impossible. "The Ribble Link makes our plan for the Northern Reaches so much more exciting, because for the first time it links Lancaster to the rest of the world," Mr Bagot says.

"It is important that we succeed because it would provide another means of entry to the Lake District."

Even when the Ribble Link is complete, the navigable stretch of the canal will end at Tewitfield, where the basin is carefully screened from the motorway by trees, although sadly the noise from three lanes of cars, lorries and coaches cannot be ignored.

The Restoration Group — four local authorities, the British Waterways Board (BWB), charities and volunteer groups — do not underestimate the scale and cost of the task, estimated at around £20 million, to include links under and over the motorway. In many places the abandoned stretch has become part of farmland, still incongruously spanned by stone canal bridges. Although some land owners may need persuading of the value of once again having a canal to divide their fields, an engineering study has shown it is feasible.

Derek Cochrane, northwest regional manager of BWB, says: "From our point of view, the prospect of being able to travel by canal to the Lake District is wonderful. It would create employment and increase good-quality tourism.

"But it has got to be something for the whole community. At the moment we do not own all the land needed for the canal to be reopened but we want the chance to explain to everyone what our aims are."

Mr Bagot also harbours a personal dream. "I am a keen canalist," he says, showing off a photograph of an elegant 70ft wooden narrow boat named *Lady Heatherton*. "She was once the committee boat of the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Company, built in 1898. When she came up for sale 20 years ago, I couldn't resist. I'd love to be able to cruise home."

LYNNE GREENWOOD

● *The Waterway Recovery Group is looking for volunteers to help on the project. If you would like to help, contact: Neil Edwards, Waterway Recovery Group, Inland Waterways Association, 114 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 8UQ (0171-586 2510 or 0171-586 2556).*

Swift way to find a mate

FEATHER REPORT

LOOK UP in the sky when you hear a swift screaming overhead, because in a week or two it will be heading south for Africa. Many of the young birds are already out on the wing, and they will be the first to go. The adults, who are somewhat emaciated after bringing up their nestlings, will gorge themselves on flying insects and recover their strength before they set out in the wake of their offspring.

Erich Kaiser, a German ornithologist, has just discovered something that even the swifts themselves can be baffled by — how to distinguish the two sexes from each other. Mated pairs of swifts like to sit side by side having a screaming duet at the entrance to their nest holes in roofs and steeples. Together, they produce a note like "sree-ree", with each member of the pair contributing one syllable. What has never been ascertained before is which sex produces the opening, higher-pitched "sree" and which the lower-pitched "ree".

Herr Kaiser has a house near Frankfurt, with a broad gable at the front. He records in a recent issue of *British Birds* how he put up a large number of glass-backed nesting boxes for swifts behind the gable, and also made a room behind the gable where he could sit. The boxes were soon occupied, and he could watch the domestic life of all the swifts simultaneously, as though they were taking place on a great instrument panel in front of him.

They did not mind the lighting in the room and, as the males mated with the females, or the females laid their eggs, he was able to distinguish their sex simply by their actions. Then he was able to record their sex by marking their tails with distinctive dots of paint.

After that, watching them when they were duetting, he was quickly able to establish that it was the females who make the "sree" note and the males the "ree" note.

The swifts use these calls at other times, too. They themselves probably cannot distinguish the other sex by sight alone. Anyway, in their nest-holes they are normally in the dark. But they recognise each other's calls. Normally, when a swift flies up to a nest hole and puts its head in, it gives the distinctive "sree" or "ree" call, according to its sex. A male doing this may be looking for an empty hole, a female for a mate. If there is a male inside, he will chase such intruding males off. If there is a female inside, she will chase other females off.

However, neither of them will chase away a member of the opposite sex. Most interestingly, if a bird comes in seeking shelter in cold weather, it will take care not to call

PETER BROWN

The swift: bound for Africa

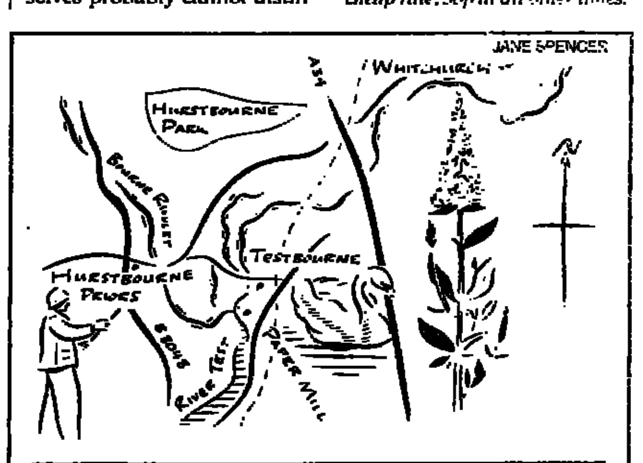
at all — and then it will be left alone by both of the pair and allowed to stay and sleep, because it has not sexed itself.

How amazing birds are. Every time we learn something new about them, we realise again the enormous variety of behaviour that has evolved to enable each species to survive.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — a black-eared wheatear at Fair Isle, Shetland and a lesser yellowlegs at Dungeness, Kent. Twitchers — look out for a large numbers of starlings feeding on flying ants. Details from Birdline: 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

JANE SPENCER



ON THE SPOT: HAMPSHIRE

Rural recommendations

The place: Testbourne, Hampshire.

The view: placid chalk-stream lined with bulrushes, purple loosestrife, meadowsweet and willows. Swans swimming, eels in the mud and fat trout hanging lazily in the water.

Appeal: an accessible spot on the most famous trout-fishing river in the world (unless you count Robert Redford's).

Aficionados: fly-fishermen, of course, but also country boys, strollers and walkers following the Test Valley route.

Historical interest: this is the meeting place of the rivers Test and Bourne, and was celebrated by Harry Plunket-Greene in his classic book, *Where the Bright Waters Meet*.

When to visit: any summer evening is a delight.

OS reference: 449461 on Landranger 185.

How to get there: turn off the B3048 Hurstbourne Priors to Longparish road past a millhouse and follow the lane alongside the millstream to a parking place.

Also nearby: a Queen Anne house high above the river, Whitchurch silk mill, trout hatcheries, and Hurstbourne Priors, with one of the most photogenic cricket pitches in the county. Eat at the Red House pub-restaurant, Whitchurch.

ROBIN YOUNG

[illegible] للأصل

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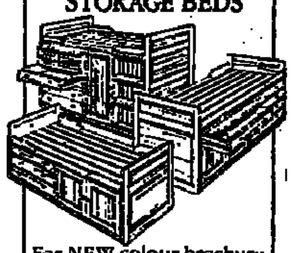

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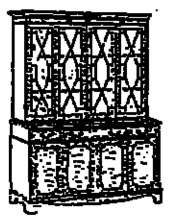

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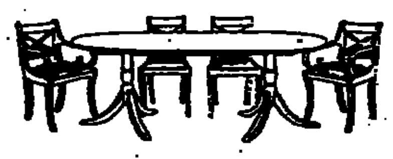

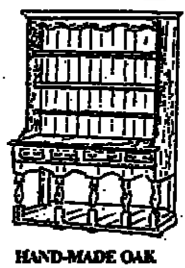

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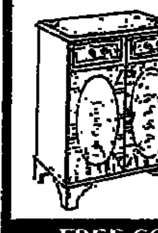

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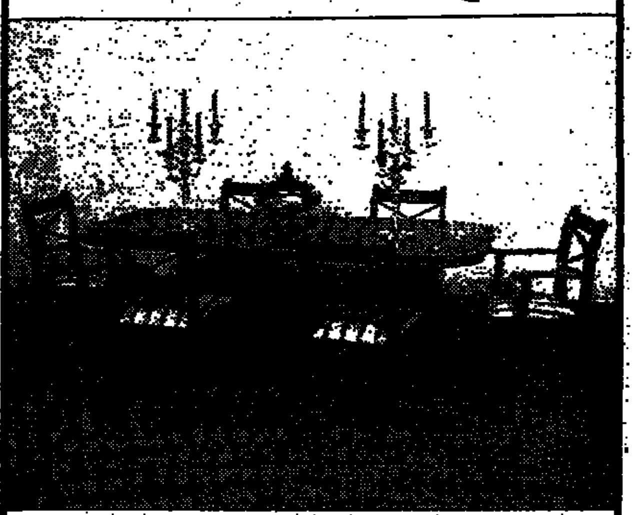

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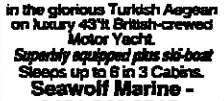

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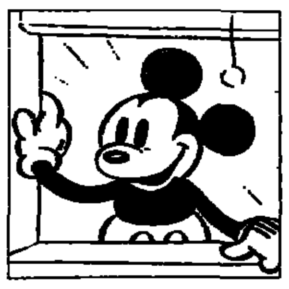


The endlessly shifting sands of Arabia

Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Oman offer dramatic contrasts of how ancient cultures are learning to cope with a sudden influx of Western oil money

WERNER FORMAN

A refreshing shower for a bird of prey after a hard day's desert flying. Old traditions survive in Dubai in spite of it embracing the 21st century

In a Dubai bookshop, among the gaudy trappings of the oil culture, I came across an edition of Wilfred Thesiger's *Arabian Sands*. "I went to southern Arabia just in time," he wrote. "If anyone goes there now looking for the life I led they will not find it … They will bring back results far more interesting than mine, but will never know the spirit of the land nor the greatness of the Arabs."

Thesiger had made a camel ride in exactly these parts, crossing from Salala in south Oman to Dubai with nothing to eat except a handful of dates and with warring tribesmen for company.

That was the way life was as recently as 1960, and had been for 7,000 years. The nomadic people lived in tents and traded dates and pearls with Iran, Iraq and India, sailing down the Dubai creek, a natural fissure in the brilliant coast of the Arabian peninsula, in the centuries-old crescent-shaped dhow.

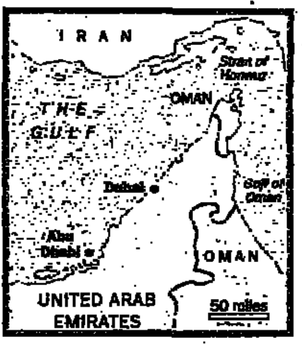
Pearl fishers wearing just a nose clip and leather finger stalls against the Brobdingnagian sea urchins in these warm waters would stay under water for three minutes at a time. They dived many times a day on four-month trips, earning a pittance compared to the pearl merchants who traded their wares in the teeming souks. These merchants reclined on divans under wind-cooled towers made of coral and mud, smoking hookahs and delighting in the bright clothes of their women — once they had shed the black outer carapace of the *chador* they donned on the streets.

Today the Dubai creek is lined with modern architecture — each architect vying to work the theme of the dhow sail more improbably in concrete or glass. It has taken little more than 30 years to transform this part of an especially savage desert into a garden full of bougainvillaea and Indian almond trees, irrigated with recycled sewage and desalinated water. Sprinklers play year-round on the spongy turf of the splendid golf courses, where delicious Gulf grouper is served on European china in state-of-the-art clubhouses.

Every commercial activity under the sun is here, including Russian prostitutes in skinny minis. The local men, wearing the white jellaba and black string headdress, prowl the Western bars while the local women are well nigh invisible. *The only activity on* the streets is from bustling Pakistanis, Indians, Sri Lankans and Filipinos and expatriate Brits — a bullish but nostalgic breed who call their home rather wistfully "the Yookay" and, like well-paid worker bees, keep the hive going while the ruling classes enjoy the honey.

And what honey there is. It comes from billions of barrels of oil a day. It has built schools, hotels, hospitals and roads where once there was nothing but windswept sand. It has moderated the climate and jerked the community from the Stone Age into the 21st century without pausing along the way.

The United Arab Emirates, of which Dubai is probably the most ostentatious, have reacted *in different* ways to this phenomenon. In Dubai the macho pleasures Thesiger enjoyed, pitting himself against implacable nature, have been translated into modern entertainment: wadi-bashing in air-conditioned four-wheel drives and sand skiing in a red desert that recalls nothing so much as the



opening shots of *The English Patient*. Only occasionally, when one falls off one's sandboard on to sunstrafed dunes so hot that they sandblast the skin, does one get a brief idea of the pain Lawrence of Arabia must have endured crossing the anvil of the world. Only briefly, bathing amid dramatic rocky outcrops in cool wadis left over from the spring rains, can one imagine Thesiger's pleasures.

Dubai has the most expensive horse race in the world, it has a season and world-class socialites, it has its duty-free shopping and its famous gold market. In the not too distant future, Jamaila beach will resemble nothing so much as Palm Beach in Florida.

For the time being, there is one hotel that outdoes the rest, the Jebel Ali. Forty minutes' drive from the city, it lies on a perfect beach in a 40-acre garden filled with peacocks. You can ride, swim of course, and practise every water sport except jet-skiing, which has been outlawed because of its nuisance value — it is available elsewhere in Dubai. Or you can just bask under the mature coconut palms imported from Florida at a cost of £4,000 a throw. The trees travel with their own horticulturist who nurtures them on the flight and each comes with a year's guarantee.

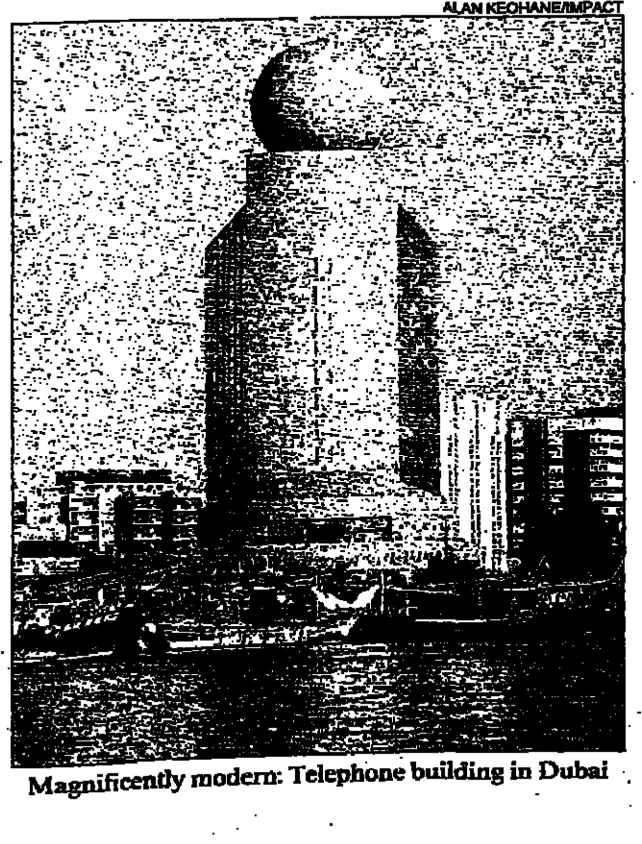
The same palms line the road from town, spaced ten metres apart. At these prices I calculated this little stretch has cost the ruling Maktoum family £2.5 million in civic horticulture alone. The imported palms, in the land where the local date palm once ruled, are an apt metaphor for a place transformed by funny money, as is the view of hundreds of oil drums from the deep-sea fishing boats that go out to catch marlin morning and night.

Abu Dhabi, on an island to the west, is by contrast a haven of peace. The name means Father of the Gazelle — a tribesman seeing an animal watering at a well founded the city on the same spot. Since then the Sultan has tried to transform the desert into Utopia with varying degrees of success. A world traveller, he has reproduced his favourite spots and turned the little state variously into Cannes or the Caribbean or California. Just as in the South of France there is a corniche separating the expensive hotels from the beaches, so there is in Abu Dhabi, and since in France there are no bridges across the highway, none are allowed in Abu Dhabi. The Sultan has his own ideas, too, such as dumping the rubble from old buildings into the sea to make a lagoon fringed with white sands and leafy, free public parks. Abu Dhabi is spotless even in the fish market, where regulations insist that the catch, including pathetic embryonic sharks, is all sold on the same day. The atolls, palm trees and the climate remind one of the Florida Keys, with all the associated water sports. Except, there is also the marvellous calm associated with Islam at its best, where the loudest sound is the muezzin puncturing the hot stillness as he calls the faithful to prayer five times a day.

Even the local requirement, all over the region, for women to dress in ankle-length clothes on the street, seems less politically incorrect by Western standards than blissfully relaxing, and not at all at odds with a place where the flesh can stand only so much sun. Somnolent Abu Dhabi boasts every middle-class pleasure, from golf to drinking, in completely safe circumstances. Only a masochist turns to crime here, where he will do hard labour in a temperature of more than 100F.

The rest of the eastern half *of the peninsula is taken up* with the state of Oman, its blue mountains ending in a jewelled sea. It is a perfect setting and under Sultan Qaboos bin Said the proud philosophy has been "slowly, slowly". Consequently, though oil has improved the lot of the locals, there is none of the overt decadence that comes with sudden wealth. For the traveller this is a bonus. On Omani streets one still sees the people who are hidden in the north, including women and children. It is a real society.

ALAN KEOHANE/IMPACT



Magnificently modern: Telephone building in Dubai

The ethnic dwellings sit side by side with luxury hotels, office blocks and white colonial villas, and the seafaring people equally bear the imprint of centuries of different genetic influences — the Sultan was also once the Sultan of Zanzibar. There are negroid Omanis and blue-eyed Omanis, all looking equally majestic in the blue dish-dash and embroidered brimless hat of the region, many speaking an excessively polite English.

The rush-covered souk by the port has goods from all over the Orient, a living legacy of Oman's trading history, and its balconied houses and slimline boats recall Malta, North Africa, Spain and even Venice. Today its traders still sit cross-legged on rush mats — but they now use calculators and mobile phones, and the economy is secure enough for *there to be a limit to how much* they will bargain.

Yet you can understand why Thesiger was charmed, for there is plenty to fire the imagination still. How many Lord Jim stories, Westerners lost in the siren souks of the Orient, must have been re-enacted over the centuries in the ports and forts bordering on these warm waters?

Today Oman is just an eight-hour flight from Britain and its showcase hotel, the Al Bustan Palace — with its feet in the Indian Ocean and its back to the mountains, with its range of sports, its jazz bar, its royal suites and international prices — is as luxurious as any in the world. Yet just five minutes away on a neighbouring beach the old gentlemen play chequers in the sand at sunset beside their blue dhows, just as they did when nobody would have known what to do with oil.

The Omanis are well aware how delicate is the balance between past and present. In the ecological sense they have moved into the future faster than their sister states. The Arabian oryx, which had been shot nearly to extinction, is being reintroduced — everywhere by the roadside are little statues of the animal to remind citizens of their duty to the local wildlife. And when I pointed out plastic bags jettisoned by passing ships on to a near-perfect beach I was assured the matter would be brought up at the next meeting of the ecological committee.

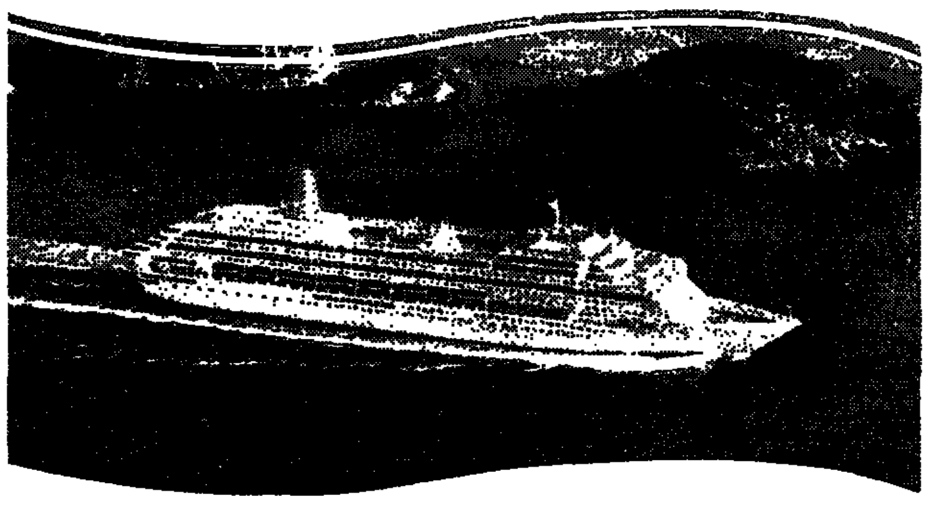
Thesiger deplored the Western litter in the UAE, where it *is nothing to find Coca-Cola* cans in an otherwise virgin desert.

Tourism may be relatively new to Oman but at least that means they have the opportunity to learn from everyone else's mistakes.

GLENYS ROBERTS

FACT FILE

- **Glenys Roberts flew to the Middle East with Gulf Air and stayed at the Intercontinental in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, the Hatta Fort Hotel in Dubai and the Al Bustan Palace in Oman on an Arabian Adventure tour organised by Kuoni Travel (01306 743000). Individually tailored multicentre holiday packages start at £779 per person for eight nights, including accommodation and scheduled flights.**
- **Vaccinations: Polio, tetanus, hepatitis and typhoid are recommended. Malaria protection is preferable in Oman.**
- **Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Culture Shock! UAE*, by Gina L. Crocetti (Kuperard, £7.95). *Phoenix Rising: UAE Past, Present and Future*, (Harvill, £45). *Dubai Tourist & Business Guide* (Dubai Municipality, £10).**



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مكتبة امين الأصول

Bali and Lombok: The lush islands beguile **Brian MacArthur,** while the world's finest hotels pamper him

Escape for the holiday of a lifetime

DENIS WAUGH

Above left: a moss-covered stone carving at Ubud, Bali's cultural capital. Above: Away from the tourist centres, life goes on as it has for centuries with the Balinese tending their spectacular rice fields

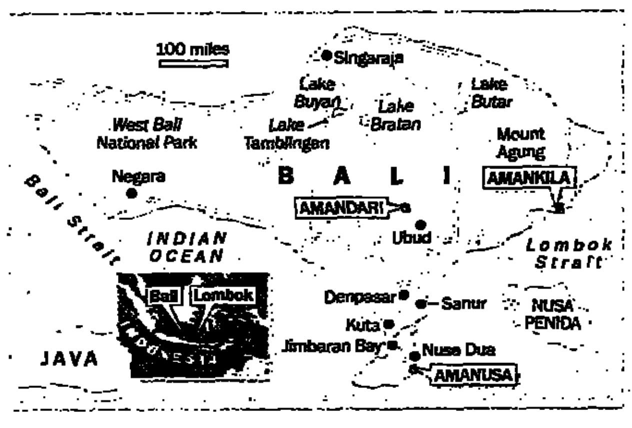
It is seven o'clock and across the countryside the roosters are crowing. The mist is rising over the rice fields beyond the gorge and the birds are singing their hearts out in the towering banyan tree. Over the garden wall a mother and her child are carrying their morning offering to the family temple. Outside my house, in the garden beyond the lily pond, the pool is warm and I swim naked before breakfasting under a thatched pavilion on papaya juice and newly-baked croissants.

It is another new dawn at the Amandari resort in Bali and nowhere else in the world — apart from the rainforest at Cape Tribulation in Queensland — have I felt such a sense of being away from it all and in an utterly different culture, even though the busy life of Ubud, the island's cultural capital, goes on only a few hundred yards away.

Every new morning was equally memorable during a recent week in Bali and the neighbouring island of Lombok. On one we took a picnic breakfast high up under the volcano at Mount Agung. We had the hill to ourselves and we sat under a memorial to the freedom fighters who fought the Dutch, and looked down across the wooded landscape to the Lombok Strait. It seemed empty of human life but hidden by the trees there were hundreds of families tending their fields along the roads up the mountain.

On another I had a Lulur Royal massage. After an hour of pummelling, my body was smeared with a solution of turmeric and herbs. I was rinsed down and then plastered with cold yoghurt before being put into a relaxing rose-petal bath. On another we went by boat from Lombok to the three almost uninhabited Gili islands, swam on a coral reef, and as we looked back to Lombok, with its highest mountain shrouded in mist and its deserted, palm-fringed beaches, it was as if we were alone on the planet.

Saying that you are going to Bali elicits envy but what greets you — after 13 hours to Singapore and another two-and-a-half hour hop to Denpasar with Qantas — is very different to the Bali of the imagination. This is not the desert island we visit with Sue Lawley every Sunday. That idyll ended long ago. The population of Bali is almost three million, there are nearly four million tourists a year, it shares the booming prosperity of Indonesia, and the main road north from the airport at Denpasar, thronged with cars and motorbikes, seems almost as busy as the M4. The main danger in Bali, according to Lonely Planet, is traffic.



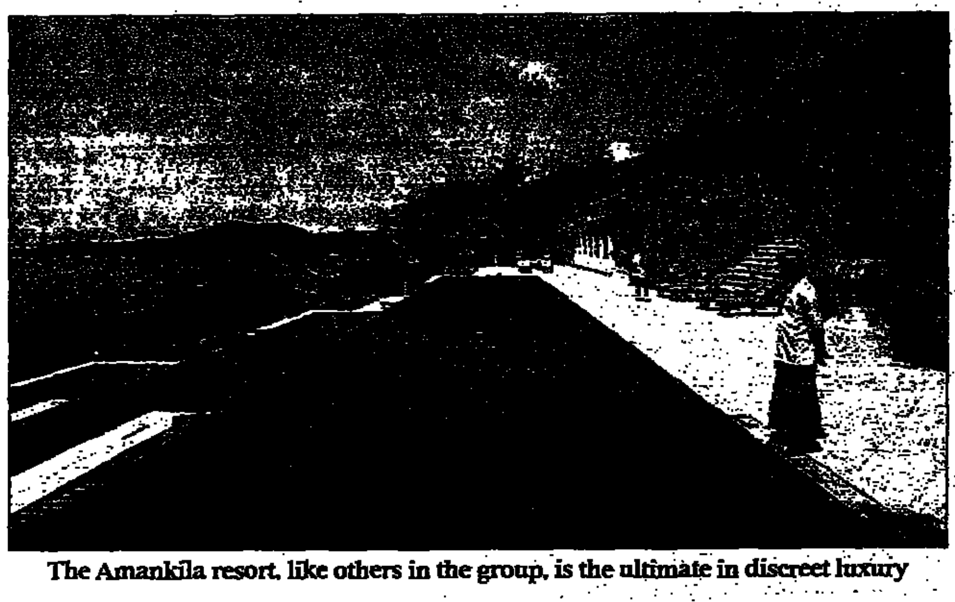
Yet tourism has wisely been confined to a few enclaves, mainly around the southerly Bukit peninsula at Nusa Dua, Kuta (popular with Australians), Sanur and Jimbaran Bay across from the airport. It is here that the big international hotel chains are developing the "resorts" with suites, swimming pools, tennis courts, golf, health spas, and several restaurants, all set in acres of grounds, which mean that some tourists need never see anything else of Bali at all.

Away from these tourist centres, and within easy reach by car, most of Bali remains a green and lush island of mountains and volcanoes, sandy beaches, tropical jungles and spectacular rice paddies where life goes on as it has for centuries and where the vibrant Balinese culture of art, architecture, music and dance still flourishes. Most of the gentle Balinese still tend their rice fields, mind the family cow and chickens, fish from small boats, encourage their neatly uniformed children to school and observe the Hindu faith and its frequent festivals, ceremonies and processions. The women seem to carry everything on their heads.

Bali, the Hindu enclave of Muslim Indonesia, is a deeply religious society. There are Hindu shrines everywhere, whether in family homes, dotted throughout the countryside and even in the hotels, each newly bedecked with daily offerings. At one hotel a resident paying $600 a day was required to wait in reception while his new swimming pool was blessed. There are also magnificent Hindu temples, the cathedrals of Bali.

The villages, with houses set back from the roads and with gardens of flourishing frangipani and bougainvillea and flowers in every colour of the rainbow, are as neat and tidy as if they were set around Reigate or Knutsford. I was reminded of India's Goa or Kerala but without the mess, the crowds, the dirt or the begging. When we visited the royal palace at Amlapura, the nearby water palace at Tirtagangga, with its pools and ponds surrounded by beautiful rice fields, the magnificent Kehen temple and Lake Batur last month — all well away from the main centres — we were the only tourists.

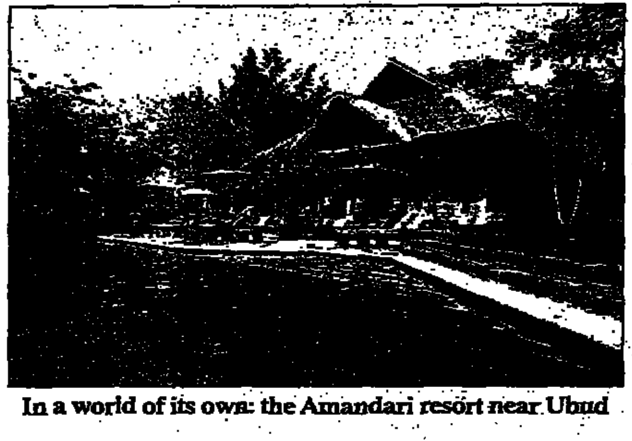
Yet it was Lombok, a 25-minute flight eastwards, a mainly Muslim island of soaring mountains, spectacular forested valleys and deserted beaches, that was a revelation. The Bali I had imagined was found in Lombok, now the second fastest growing destination for British Airways Holidays. Landing at the airport, a small hut surrounded by well-tended flower beds with a runway set into a field, was like arriving at a small Caribbean island. For those who really want to get away from it all, there are basic rooms on the nearby Gili islands, each with only about a hundred inhabitants and which offer outstanding diving, for $5 a night.



The Amankila resort, like others in the group, is the ultimate in discreet luxury

With a population of 2.3 million, Lombok is only now being discovered. It gets just 350,000 tourists a year and as yet there are only a handful of luxury hotels, including the newly opened and utterly enchanting Oberoi on Medana beach in the northwest. It was built by the same architect who designed the Amandari and shows the same inspired use of water, palm trees and uplit floodlighting to create at night the illusion of being on the set of an operatic version of *South Pacific*. There were children living in the woods behind the beach who had never before seen sunglasses.

There is still a backpackers' Bali and there are many modest, decent and cheap hotels. Yet Bali also has three or four of the world's most outstanding hotels, if hotel is even the right word to describe them. They are for once-in-a-lifetime holidays, idyllic honeymoons or away-from-it-all retreats for those who want to drop off the world for upwards of £2,000 a week.



In a world of its own: the Amandari resort near Ubud

Amanresorts, dotted throughout South East Asia, are the creation of Adrian Zecha, an inspired Indonesian-born hotelier, and even their rivals describe them as The Best. The word "Aman" has entered the language as an adjective indicating understated comfort, privacy and prodigious expense, according to Nicholas Coleridge, managing director of Condé Nast's stable of glitzy magazines, who ought to know.

Amanresorts are the ultimate in escapist but unvulgar luxury. There are three in Bali — the Amanusa on a hilltop overlooking Nusa Dua, the Amankila built on stilts and walkways set into a steep cliff an hour north, both with nearby beaches, and the Amandari in Ubud. Each is built in Balinese style and offers discreet shelter, refuge and privacy for visitors who want to go unrecognised and be left alone.

Enter an Amanresort and you are enfolded in a world that sets its own standards — there are no televisions but there are well stocked libraries of books and CDs. The resorts are not really hotels but small villages set in acres of gardens, each with about 30 to 40 "suites". Suite, however, is the wrong word. Each is in fact a small house or pavilion with as much space as the average English home. (At the Amandari I had an upstairs wood-panelled bedroom with a king-sized bed, reached by a circular staircase, and the sybaritic treat of an outdoor sunken bath.)

Many suites are set in walled courtyards with their own swimming pool, garden, dining pavilion, though each resort has other pools, floodlit at night, in the spacious grounds and gardens. With five to six staff to each guest, the service is outstanding. Ask for an alarm call and breakfast at seven and both occur on the dot; 15 minutes later they ring to check you have not gone back to sleep.

Another outstanding resort is the Four Seasons, with 147 Balinese villas set in their own walled courtyard gardens with pool and fountain, all overlooking the sea and beach and regularly voted the best resort in the world by American travellers. The sights of Bali can be reached easily from any of them and they also offer jungle treks, viewings of Hindu ceremonies, tours of temples and visits to artists' workshops.

I visited Bali on a whirlwind tour of six hotels in a party of four experienced and well travelled British journalists, none of whom is easily impressed. But we all were, and each of us would happily return to any of the hotels we visited (including the new Ritz Carlton resort next door to the Four Seasons which would certainly be the best for children). All of us thought the Amandari was the best "hotel" we had ever stayed in but the Aman example is being imitated throughout South East Asia, and Aman resorts will soon have several rivals. Meanwhile, a mix of the Four Seasons, the Oberoi in Lombok and any of Bali's Aman resorts will offer a holiday that will be remembered for the rest of your life.

FACT FILE

- **The author travelled with Elegant Resorts (01244 897888) which offers tailor-made holidays to Bali and Lombok for any length of stay at any of their featured hotels.**
- **Prices start from £1,855pp for seven nights in a villa at the Four Seasons and £1,960pp for seven nights in an Amandari suite, based on room only, and include economy class flights by Qantas via Singapore and private car transfers.**
- **Seven nights in a terrace pavilion at the Oberoi in Lombok start from £1245pp (room only) including all flights and private car transfers.**
- **Qantas (0345 747767) flies to Denpasar three times a week. Prices start from £1,035 until August 31. One way business class fares start at £1,765.**
- **The wet season is from October to March. June, July and August are particularly dry. The islands are eight hours ahead of GMT.**
- **UK residents do not need vaccinations but anti-malarial precautions are recommended for Lombok.**
- **Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *A Tale from Bali*, by Vicki Baum (OUP, £15.95); *Island of Bali*, by Miguel Covarrubias (Kegan Paul, £17.95); *An Empire of the East*, by Norman Lewis (Picador, £5.99); *Bali Handbook* (Moon, £13.99).**

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 23

JELAB

(c) A hooded cloak worn in Morocco. From the Arab *jilyab* a tunic. "His dress was hardly less brilliant — a chocolate jellab over a kaftan of several colours."

HOWDAH

(b) A seat for two or more, fitted with railing and canopy, erected on the back of an elephant. From the Persian and Urdu *haudah* and modified from the Arab *haudaj* meaning a litter carried by a camel or elephant. "A gorgeous howda deck'd the beast."

JOUGS

(a) An old Scottish instrument of punishment or torture which consisted of an iron collar which was locked around culprit's neck and chained to a wall. From the French *joug* or Latin *jugum* yoke. "If hereafter she should be found drunk, she should be put in the joggs."

HIMP

(c) To limp, hobble. From the German dialect *humpen*, *himpen* and the Danish dialect *hompen*, to hobble. "Lame of one leg and himping all his dayes."

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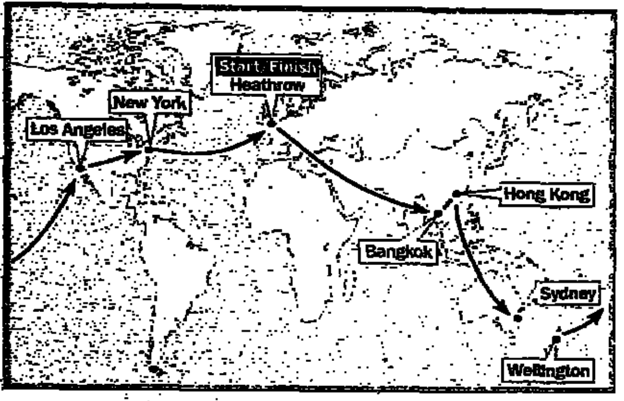
هكذا من الأصل

Specialist tours: opera-lovers enjoy alps, arias and an Aboriginal menu on a trip that spans three continents

From Bartok to bungee jumping

We met, 28 of us, at Heathrow on a bitterly cold Saturday morning in February, to board a Qantas flight to Hong Kong. By the time we arrived there, after spending 14 hours in the air and 45 minutes at Bangkok, we were already getting to know and to like one another, for opera enthusiasts tend to be amiable creatures who enjoy arguing about their favourite compoers and singers without coming to blows.



Our group was a diverse collection of people from a variety of backgrounds, from all parts of the British Isles and farther afield, and ranging widely in age.

The itinerary was well organised, with excellent hotel accommodation everywhere, and guides were available in each place to show us the *sights and advise on additional* optional tours.

Although it was primarily opera that had attracted us, we were able to spend long enough in each country — usually five or six days — to be able to indulge in plenty of sightseeing. A variety of tours was on offer, or one could simply sit by the pool and study a libretto instead. In Hong Kong, for example, where the annual arts festival was in progress, some of us merely went on local tours to Victoria Peak and Stanley Market, but others took the hydrofoil to Macao, or went off one morning at 6am to spend a long day in China.

We all reassembled at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre for a performance by the Canadian Opera Company — a double bill consisting of Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle* and Schoenberg's *Erwartung* in imaginative stagings by the vogueish Robert Lepage, here directing his first operas. Schoenberg's monodrama, which Lepage had set in a lunatic asylum instead of a forest, was not to everyone's taste but we agreed that the Bartok was impressive.

On to Sydney, where the proposed Australian republican flag, which looks somewhat like a beach towel, was prematurely in evidence. Those in our party who had never before seen the city, the harbour or the opera house were, of course, bowled over by it all.

On our first day, a few of us lunched at a restaurant called Edna's Table, which I had assumed would be decorated with photographs of Dame Edna Everage. Not so. I never found out who Edna was, but the restaurant is run by a couple who had been introduced to native Australian food by the Gogadja tribe of Aborigines in north-western Australia, and their menu includes emu, char-grilled fillet of kangaroo and Northern Territory magpie goose. I chose the Moreton Bay bug and bunya-nut ravioli. Scrumptious.

To audiences consisting largely of dedicated coughers, the Australian Opera performed *Fidelio* and *Cav and Pag*, with predominantly antipodean casts headed by a German tenor, Horst Hoffman (a magnificent Florestan but a seriously miscast Canio).

The company's standards of production and performance are high, and of course our group fell in love with the Sydney Opera House — or at least its exterior. I told them the standard joke, which is that Australia has a first-class opera house, whose exterior is in Sydney, whose auditorium is in Melbourne and whose orchestra pit is in Brisbane. A member of the audience added grumpily that the car park is in Adelaide.

Domingo: New York date

While we were in Sydney, the city mounted its annual Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. Some of our group chose to escape north, to Cairns and the Barrier Reef, for a couple of days.

Our first port of call in New Zealand was Christchurch, where every other shop seemed to cater for stamp-collectors. Not surprising, really, for there can't be much else to do there. But the rest of New Zealand's South Island was spectacular. We had five days there, crossing the giant forest-clad, snow-tipped Southern Alps on a scenic train, the Tranzalpine. We cruised in an old steamer on the fiord-like Milford Sound, to marvel at the mountains surrounding us and photograph basking seals and cavorting dolphins.

Three of us circled over fantastic glaciers in a helicopter and landed on one, the Franz Josef Glacier. We had breakfast at a farm where we *watched sheep being sheared*, and one intrepid member of our group did a bungee jump at the spot where that weird activity first came into being.

In the charming lakeside resort of Queenstown, we were disturbed from slumber on two consecutive nights when the fire alarms in our hotel were activated, and we all rushed down to the lobby in our bulky hotel bathrobes only to be told that the alarm had been set off by Japanese tourists smoking in their rooms. (At 5am? What *can* they have been smoking?)

> 'Opera buffs tend to be amiable creatures'

In the bird sanctuary, we saw a sad, lonely kiwi: I had told everyone they were extinct!

We flew up to Wellington for Janacek's *Katya Kabanova*, whose New Zealand premiere was being held in an architecturally striking modern auditorium, with Czech principals, a British conductor (David Parry) and an Australian director (Gale Edwards). Absolutely first-rate.

In Los Angeles we stayed at the Marina del Rey Hotel, surrounded on three sides by the marina. What a great location. Not very near the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, where the Los Angeles Opera performs, but then nowhere in LA is near anywhere else.

Our group spread out, some wandering away to the Huntingdon and Paul Getty Museums, or across to Catalina Island. One or two may even have guiltily sneaked off to do the Universal Studio tour or even to Disneyland. I admit to exploring the Queen Mary, which is ignominiously moored at Long Beach as a floating hotel.

Our LA opera was *Cosi fan tutte*, beautifully performed by an international cast in a *production by Peter Hall (to* my mind, the finest director of Mozart).

We ended our world tour in New York. The operas there, *well up to the Met's* dauntingly high standards of production and performance, were *La Forza del Destino* with Placido Domingo and Sharon Sweet, conducted by James Levine, and *Carmen* with the delectable Denyce Graves.

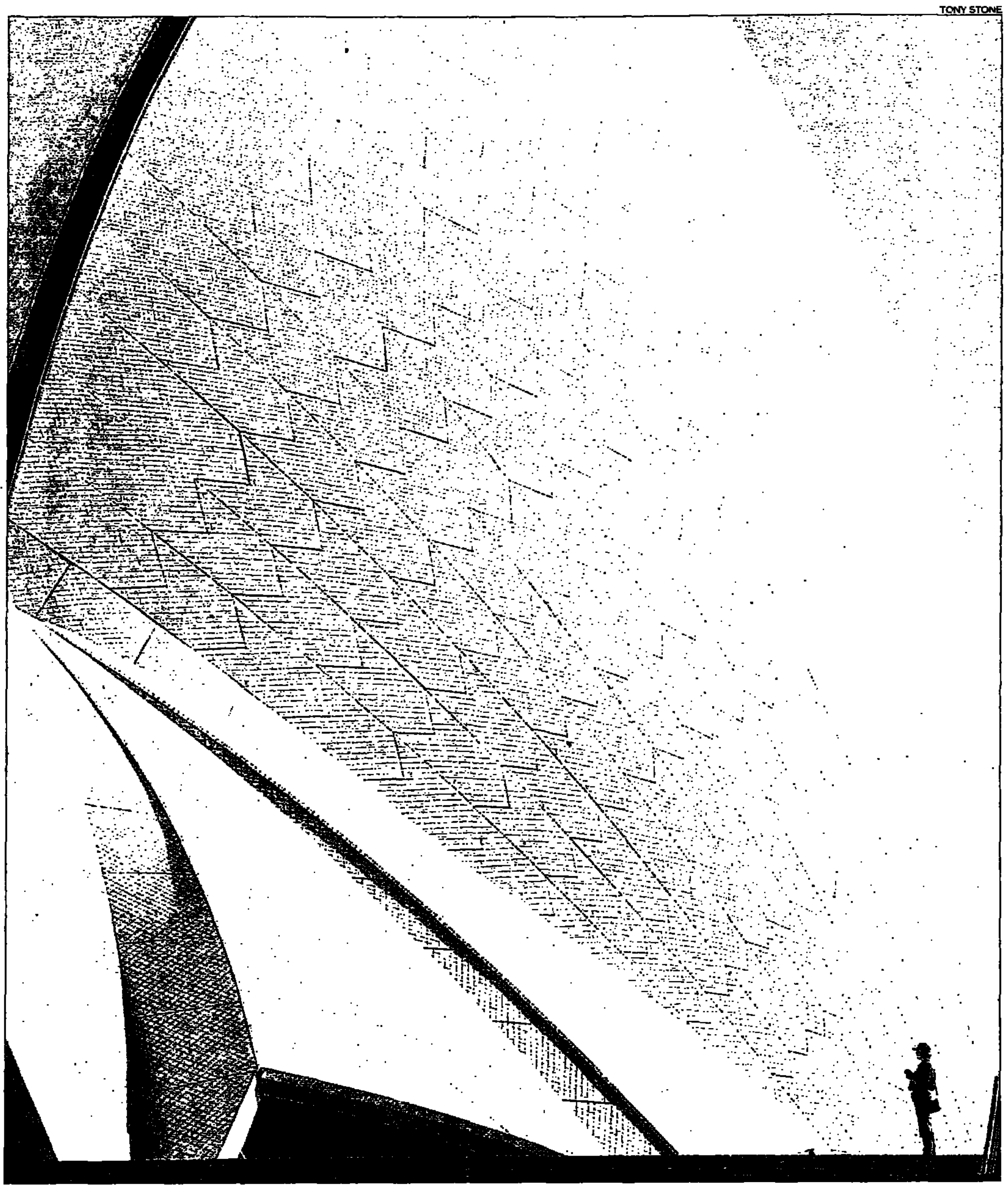
On our spare night, several of the group managed to get seats for *Show Boat*. I opted for Verdi's *Attila* at the City Opera but changed my mind and instead saw *Master Class*, Terrence McNally's play about Maria Callas. Technically interesting but superficial, saved by Zoe Caldwell's stunning performance as the self-centred diva.

A full day tour of the Hudson Valley, with visits to the Vanderbilt Estate and Roosevelt's Hyde Park mansion, a farewell luncheon cruise of New York's harbour, and then it was time to hop on to an American Airways overnight flight, refuse the food and the movie, go to sleep and wake up as we approached Heathrow.

We all agreed that it was a most exciting and enjoyable three weeks, and a great way to catch up with what's happening in the world of opera. I can't wait to do something similar next year.

CHARLES OSBORNE

TONY STONE



Highlights of the opera tour included performances of *Fidelio* and *Cav and Pag* at the magnificent Sydney Opera House overlooking the harbour

OPERA FACT FILE

- The author travelled with Travel For The Arts (0171-483 4466), which is staging another trip from February 14 to March 7, 1998, taking in New York for *Samson et Dalila*, with Placido Domingo and Waltraud Meier, followed by Los Angeles *(Magic Flute)*, Wellington, New Zealand *(Fidelio)* and Sydney *(Tosca)*.
- The guideline price is £4,250, with a single room supplement of £990, excluding insurance.
- Tickets are on sale for Verdi's *Aida* in Luxor, Egypt, October 12-17. Prices: from £100-£230. Details: Cairo Opera House (00 202 341 7314). Kuoni Egypt is offering a seven-night stay in Luxor, including tickets to *Aida*, from £459. Details: 01306 743000.
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Opera Houses of the World*, by Thierry Beauvert (Thames & Hudson, £42).

Domingo: high standards

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Such an itinerary undertaken completely by coach would indeed be a tiring experience. However, by dividing our time between touring and cruising we are able to offer a more leisurely schedule. The seven day cruise aboard the first class *MS Rousse* offers a moving hotel and a most comfortable base. She will moor close to, and in some cases in the centre of, the cities and towns along the river and whilst she is sailing along the Danube she affords wonderful views, but perhaps the biggest advantage is that for seven nights of the itinerary you have a permanent base - no packing or unpacking!

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London (Heathrow) **to Berlin.** Midday departure with British Airways. Drive to the Forum Hotel or similar for a 2 night stay. Dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 2 Berlin/Potsdam. Morning excursion of both East and West Berlin, driving along the Unter den Linden, and past the Reichstag, Charlottenburg Place and the Brandenburg Gate. Afternoon visit to Potsdam, the Versailles of Prussia. Here amongst the splendour of Frederick the Great's creation we will see the Palace of Sans Souci and the Tea House.

Day 3 Berlin to Dresden. An early start today as we drive to Dresden, the historic capital of Saxony. Virtually flattened by Allied bombing in World War II, the city has been rebuilt in the spirit of regeneration which is now so prevalent in the former East Germany. Visit the Zwinger Palace, a wonderful collection of Baroque pavillions, galleries and gardens. Later see the Semper Opera House and the ruins of Our Lady's Church. Stay overnight at the Hotel Alpha or similar.

Day 4 Dresden-Meissen-Prague. Morning departure to medieval Meissen to visit the Porcelain Museum and factory. Afternoon drive through the lovely countryside of Saxon-Switzerland to Prague. Stay 2 nights at the Diplomat Hotel or similar. Dinner in a typical Prague beer cellar restaurant.

Day 5 Prague. Our guided tour of the 'Golden City' will include the magnificent castle area and St Vitus cathedral. Walk along Golden Lane before driving around the city, referred to by Goethe as 'the jewel in the world's crown'. Afternoon free, perhaps to explore the fascinating Jewish Quarter, or visit some of the excellent museums and galleries.

Day 6 Prague to Passau. Drive through the enchanting Bohemian countryside to the picturesque German city of Passau, situated on the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers. Embark *MS Rousse* and sail through the delightful lush countryside.

Day 7 Vienna. Morning sailing through the scenic Wachau Valley arriving in Vienna in the late morning. After lunch there will be a city sightseeing tour of Vienna, driving around the 'Ring' and visiting the Old Quarter. Sail in the evening.

Day 8 Kalosca. Here on the Hungarian Plains (Puszta) visit the charming town of Kalosca. There will be an optional excursion to this area which is rich in folklore and famous for its horses and riding skills.

Day 9 Budapest. Be on deck as we sail into Budapest, a wonderful site with beautiful views on both sides of Buda and Pest. An afternoon sightseeing tour will include Gellert Hill, the Mathias Church and the Fisherman's Bastion. Evening optional 'Budapest by Night' tour. Sail at midnight.

Day 10 Budapest to Estergom. There will be an opportunity for those who wish to take the optional excursion overland to Estergom by way of the picturesque town of Szentendre. Or stay on board and cruise to Estergom, arriving in the early afternoon.

Day 11 Bratislava. Morning in the capital of Slovakia. Walking tour of city. Afternoon on the river.

Day 12 Durnstein. Arrive in the morning. Join an optional excursion to Melk Abbey and the beautiful wine growing countryside of the Wachau Valley. Sail at lunch time through the marvellously scenic countryside of vineyards, precariously perched castles and enchanting villages.

Day 13 Passau. Arrive in the morning and disembark after breakfast. Optional walking tour of Passau. Later drive to the famous place of pilgrimage at Altotting for lunch at the delightful Hotel Post. Drive to the Dorint Hotel for an overnight stay. Farewell dinner in Munich.

Day 14 Munich to London (Heathrow). Late morning departure with British Airways to London.

1997/8 DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICES PER PERSON

based on double occupancy

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Danube [illegible]	£1739	£1845	£1895
Europe [illegible]	£1850	£2105	£2130
Danube [illegible]	£1950	£2305	£2350

Price includes: Economy class air travel, 6 nights first class hotel accommodation, breakfast daily at hotels, dinners on days 1,4,6, full board on days 7 to 13, 7 nights aboard the *MS Rousse*, port taxes, transportation by first class coach, excursions on days 2,3,4,5,6,13 and city sightseeing tours in Vienna, Budapest & Bratislava, porterage, local guides, cruise director, UK departure tax.

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هكذا منذ الأصل

Scottish islands: The northernmost isles of the United Kingdom, whether Rhum or the Shetlands . . .

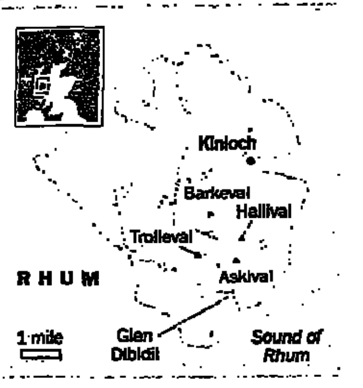
Rum goings-on for Hearty Outdoor Types

There is a certain dubious cachet in announcing to acquaintances that you have been on Rhum for a week. It can be quite satisfying to leave the remark hanging unexplained in the air and wander off, apparently none the worse for a seven-day bender. Or you can elucidate, to the effect that the Rhum is one of the Small Isles over the sea from Skye, a bleakly beautiful island nature reserve with 2,000 red deer and one phone box. Neither option will dent any air of enigma you may wish to cultivate.

In fact, a holiday on Rhum these days is only for Hearty Outdoor Types and seekers of peace. Carving through a black sea on the round-the-houses ferry from Mallaig, I thought vaguely about getting off at the sister islands of Eigg or Muck, both of which looked distinctly more welcoming than the view of Rhum's cloud-swathed peaks and grey, unrelenting moorland. But at closer quarters Kinloch, the harbour and focus of Rhum life, is altogether less daunting — a haven of bright greenery and a handful of little white houses clustering along the shoreline around the expanse of Kinloch Castle.

Until last year the island's extraordinary castle, built in 1884 by the Bullough family and host to (among other celebrities of the day) Edward VII, operated as a hotel: £84 a night secured accommodation in a time warp, a sort of crumbling museum of faded opulence in which everything — furniture, silk wall coverings, pornographic reading matter — was as the family left it.

Lack of funds for maintenance have led to the hotel doors being closed, except for a daily guided tour which should not be missed by



anyone with a taste for historical Goings On. Edward VII's affair with the mistress of the house: the master's preference for small boys: teethmarks on the bedpost: our drily suggestive guide had a bottomless store, as it were, of irresistible gossip. It is still possible to stay in much less flamboyant style in the hostel round the back, which also operates an unexciting restaurant.

If you do not stay there, the two options are to brave the midges and camp, or to rent one of four basic bothies around Kinloch which are administered by Scottish Natural Heritage. These sleep between six and 12 and smaller groups may find themselves sharing with others. We had Stable Bothy to ourselves, however, at £4.50 each per night.

I had been prepared — sort of — for something only marginally less frontier-like than a tent. So it was thoroughly uplifting to find a solid and spacious building with views across the bay, lots of hot water, a cooker and an eclectic selection of kitchen implements, a woodburning stove blasting out heat, a loo and a dangerously temperamental shower, and several rooms with beds.

Kinloch Castle, built in 1884, is full of irrestible historical gossip

Admittedly, there was no floor covering to speak of and only six chairs between seven ("See what you can find in the bothy next door," suggested the warden in confidential tones, "everybody else does . . ."). However, once I was installed by the woodburner with a glass of sherry, watching the swallows cavort in the mid-evening sun, an upturned laundry basket seemed entirely adequate as a seat.

We knew we were coming to Rhum to be Hearty Ooutdoor Types, but I nursed fond notions of an evening or two spent working through a selection of single malts in a cosy bar, while in the corner the locals exchanged gossip and nodded gently into their drams. There were two stumbling blocks to this vision. First, there is no bar (even when it was open, the hotel's licence extended only to diners). The nearest anyone comes to a communal watering hole is the front step of the general store and post office, can of McEwans lager in hand. Second, there are no locals. Everyone who lives on Rhum is employed by Scottish Natural Heritage or is a volunteer conservationist, with the exception of the teacher, who currently has two pupils.

The island's interest for naturalists is centred in part on the red deer population which roam the hills freely; we would turn a corner and find a little group grazing on rough grass. But Rhum is also home to numerous species of bird, including sea eagles and well over 100,000 Manx shearwaters which nest in holes on the mountain tops. Visitors come to absorb the wildlife and to walk or climb. In fact, there is no option to walking as there are no vehicles on the island except for those used by the conservation workers. The main walking routes out of the bay — south around the coast, inland towards the ring of mountains at the heart of Rhum, or along the low-level "road" to the west coast — are well used: leave them and it can rapidly become a matter of improvisation, scree-scrambling and bog-hopping.

However, in a region where the balance between raincloud and sunshine is generally a fine one, each day's activities have to be weather-dictated and similarly spontaneous. We climbed to the top of a whorl of peaks — Barkeval, Hallival and the highest, Askival — and ate lunch in the sunshine on the top of the world, staring across a spatter of islands and scudding cloud reflections to the Cuillin mountains on Skye.

One blazing day, with the luxury of Glen Dibidil entirely to ourselves, we skinny-dipped in the stream and lay on hot rocks to dry off before the vertiginous slog up to Trolleval. The following afternoon, in a penetrating drizzle, we walked damply around the coast to inspect the Bullough family mausoleum, a grim neoclassical affair with considerable potential as a Hammer Horror set.

Would I go back to Rhum? Yes. For a sense of space, exercise and exhilaration, for the pleasurably no-frills accommodation, to watch the weather across the sea. And where else could we come away with change from £50 for a six-night stay?

FAITH GLASGOW

FACT FILE

- To book accommodation on Rum, contact the Scottish Natural Heritage (north west region). Rum National Nature Reserve, The White House, Isle of Rum PPH43 4RR. (01687 462026 and fax 01687 462805).
- Ferries to Rum go from Mallaig; contact the Caledonian McBrayne booking office. (01463 717680).

Time for a wee dram

Bowmore: £4,000 a bottle

OF SCOTLAND'S 100 or so malt distilleries, barely a dozen are sited on the northern and western isles. But there is sufficient variety among them to allow for hours of that one-upmanship of the palate that once was the exclusive preserve of wine aficionados.

If you cannot travel north, you will find the following island eight, and about 500 other vatted, blended and single whiskies, at England's finest Scottish off-licence which is Milroys, found at 3 Greek Street, London W1.

Talisker: ten years old, 45.8 per cent alcohol by volume (ABV). The only distillery on Skye. Highly individual, but different from the great Islay malts. The usual west coast flavours of peat and kippers replaced by pepper.

Highland Park: 12 years old, 40 per cent ABV. Orkney's great gift to mankind. The great middle-of-the-roader, an excellent nightcap from Scotland's most northerly distillery, which also deserves first prize for bottle design.

Isle of Jura: ten years old, 40 per cent ABV. The only distillery on an island where deer outnumber people. Light and dry, with a hint of fino sherry. A pleasant, anytime drink.

Bowmore: 40 years old, 40 per cent ABV. You will pay £4,000 for this limited edition of only 306 bottles of the Islay distillery's 1955 production. No bottles available to tasters, so we must take the distillery's word that it is velvety, soft, smooth, amazingly light for such age and that on the palate it resembles waves of soft fruit, with lighter unhurried oak and peat notes.

Poit Dhubh: 12 years old, 46 per cent ABV. Another vatted malt which, as it is produced on Skye, probably contains a fair proportion of Talisker, mixed with malts from other sources. Full-bodied, dark and smoky, with citrus undertones. Pronouncing it (" Potch Ghoo") is best attempted before drinking.

Lagavulin: 16 years old, 43 per cent ABV. The big daddy of the island whiskies, and rated by some connoisseurs the finest malt in all Scotland. One of eight distilleries on Islay, Lagavulin produces a spirit that is complex and sophisticated but without being overpowering. Magnificent.

Bunnahabhain: 12 years old, 40 per cent ABV. Lightest of the Islay malts: short on peat and smoke but long on the fresh aroma of sea air. Sales probably unfairly depressed by the world's inability to pronounce it ("Boona-havin").

Port Ellen: 18 years old, 43 per cent ABV (bottled for Milroys). Rare, as the distillery has spent some years in mothballs. Less pungent than Lagavulin, but still satisfyingly smoky and earthy, dry on the palate with a strong salt-and-pepper finish.

ALAN HAMILTON

When you want to be alone

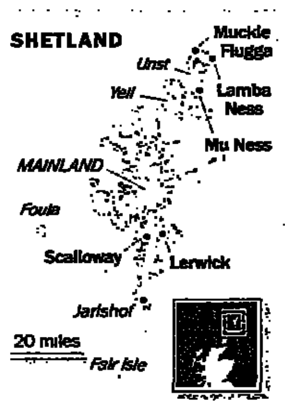
It had taken a journey of about 828 miles to get to Muckle Flugga, the northernmost coast of the northernmost island of the United Kingdom and by the time I boarded the little ferry over to Unst I was actually further from London than London is from Milan or Munich.

But it is hard to appreciate fully just how far away the Shetlands are without actually going there. Cartographers invariably bring this long spread of narrow scattered islands in closer to the Scottish mainland (if only to fit them on the same page of the atlas) and many habitually confuse them with the Orkneys, reached in as little as 45 minutes by sea from John o'Groats instead of the 14 hours it took our ferry to get from Aberdeen to Lerwick.

Making the crossing by sea seemed more appropriate than flying. About 3,000 years ago the first settlers arrived by boat, followed by generations of Vikings. Norsemen and Danes who used the islands as stepping stones to their invasion of Britain. In 1588 the flagship of the Spanish Armada was wrecked on Fair Isle; 200 years later the founder of the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company (now P&O) was born in the Shetlands, and even today the life of the islanders is inextricably linked to the sea.

There is nowhere quite like the Shetlands and while they are politically and geographically absolutely a part of Britain, island life is special.

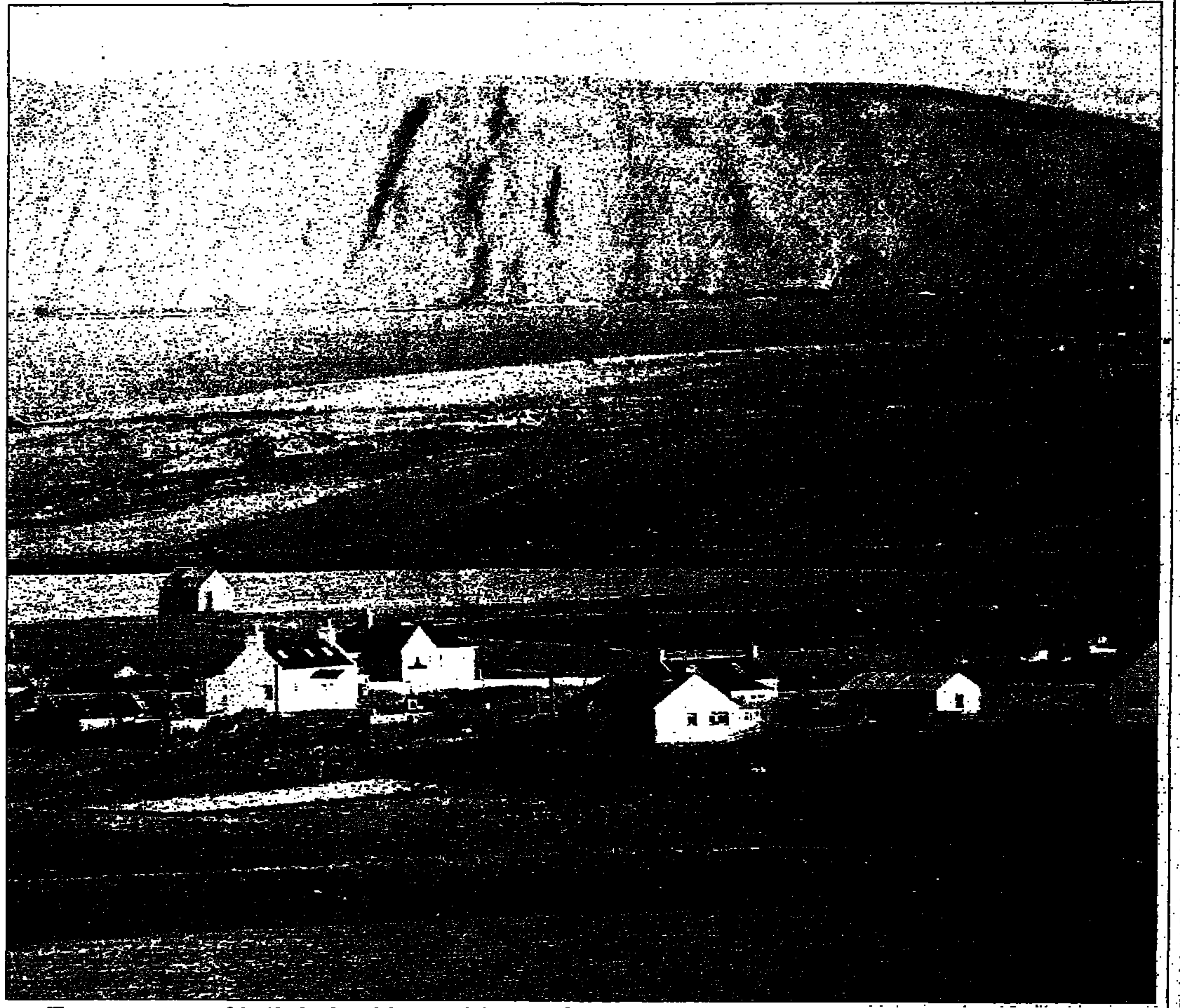
Scarcely more than a dozen



of these hundred or so islands are inhabited, so that few places in Britain can match the Shetlands in their richness and variety of wildlife. In a climate warmed by the Gulf Stream, seabirds prosper in their hundreds of thousands, seals and otters can be seen on the beaches, there are also dolphins and porpoises (known locally as neesiks), giant basking sharks, if one is lucky there is a glimpse of the occasional whale, and of course there are Thelwell's famous ponies.

The rugged character of the landscape, with its relative lack of cultivation and building, also means the archaeological heritage of more than 5,000 years has remained largely undisturbed. Just as importantly, these fascinating places — prehistoric dwellings, ancient forts, standing stones and extensive Viking and Bronze or Iron Age settlements — can be enjoyed without the sort of crowds which traditionally mar a visit

BRIAN HARRIS



The very remoteness of the Shetlands and the rugged character of their landscape mean that island life is inextricably linked to the sea

to Stonehenge, Avebury or any of the more celebrated heritage sites found on the mainland.

For 600 years these islands were ruled from Scandinavia until, in the 15th century, they were pledged to Scotland as part of the dowry of the daughter of the King of Denmark on her marriage to Scotland's future James III. The islands stayed Scottish but most of the place names are clearly derived from Old Norse, and once a year the islanders still haul a replica Viking longship through the streets of Lerwick and set it ablaze to celebrate the midwinter festival of Up Helly Aa.

Yet the most striking reminder of the Norsemen is at Jarlshof in the far south of the islands, an entire settlement buried in time (quite literally, it was unearthed early this century by a violent storm), the remains of a remote coastal hamlet occupied from Neolithic times right through to the Middle Ages. On this single, unique site visitors can walk into numerous prehistoric houses, the workshop of an itinerant Irish bronzesmith dating back to 800BC, a circular Iron Age fort, a 9th-century hall-house, the remains of a medieval farm and barn, and towering over the whole of it the ruined bulk of a 16th-century laird's manor.

Perched only a few feet above the crashing waves of the North Sea, Jarlshof is impressive by any standards, all the more so because we were the only people there. In fact in the Shetlands such welcome solitude is not uncommon and we didn't bump into a single person at Mu Ness either, or at Scalloway Castle, or while inspecting the haunting and romantic 12th-century church of St Olaf at Lunda Wick.

Mu Ness Castle, built in 1598 by Laurence Bruce and the most northerly in the country, is architecturally distinguished and militarily a clever and sophisticated design. That at Scalloway (Shetland's old capital) is larger and even more eerie having been built by Bruce's half-brother, a famously cruel Earl of Orkney who was beheaded after a hateful life. But for atmosphere nothing could beat the World War Two radar station on Lamba Ness, quite simply the spookiest place I have ever been. Its immense lichen-covered bunkers and sinister concrete pagodas seemed not to have felt the breath of a living soul since 1945.

Anywhere else in the country historical sites of this calibre would be teeming with tourists, but in the Shetlands you can have them all to yourself. Even 2,000-year-old Mousa Broch — not long ago declared Castle of the Year, its walls nearly 45 feet high, was utterly silent and alone.

DAVID LONG

SHETLAND FACT FILE

- Shetland Island Tourism, Market Cross, Lenvick, Shetland ZEI OLU (01595 693434).
- Two ships sail from Aberdeen to Lerwick five times a week. Single fares for foot passengers from £47.50; from £150 (return) for vehicles. Contact P&O Scottish Ferries (01224 572615). Inter-island ferries run every 20-30 minutes: about £3.75 for a vehicle with two passengers.
- BA (0345 222111) from Aberdeen to Sumburgh Airport from £29 return. Hire cars from Station Garage, Lerwick (01595 693315).
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *The Scottish Islands*, by Hamish Haswell-Smith (Canongate Books, £25). *Exploring Scotland's Heritage: Orkney & Shetland*, by Anna Ritchie (HMSO, £7.95).

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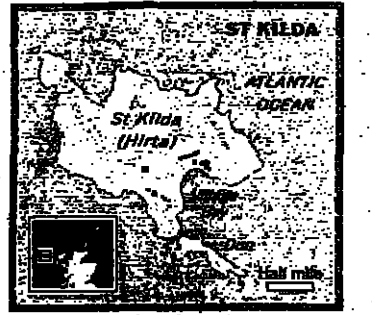
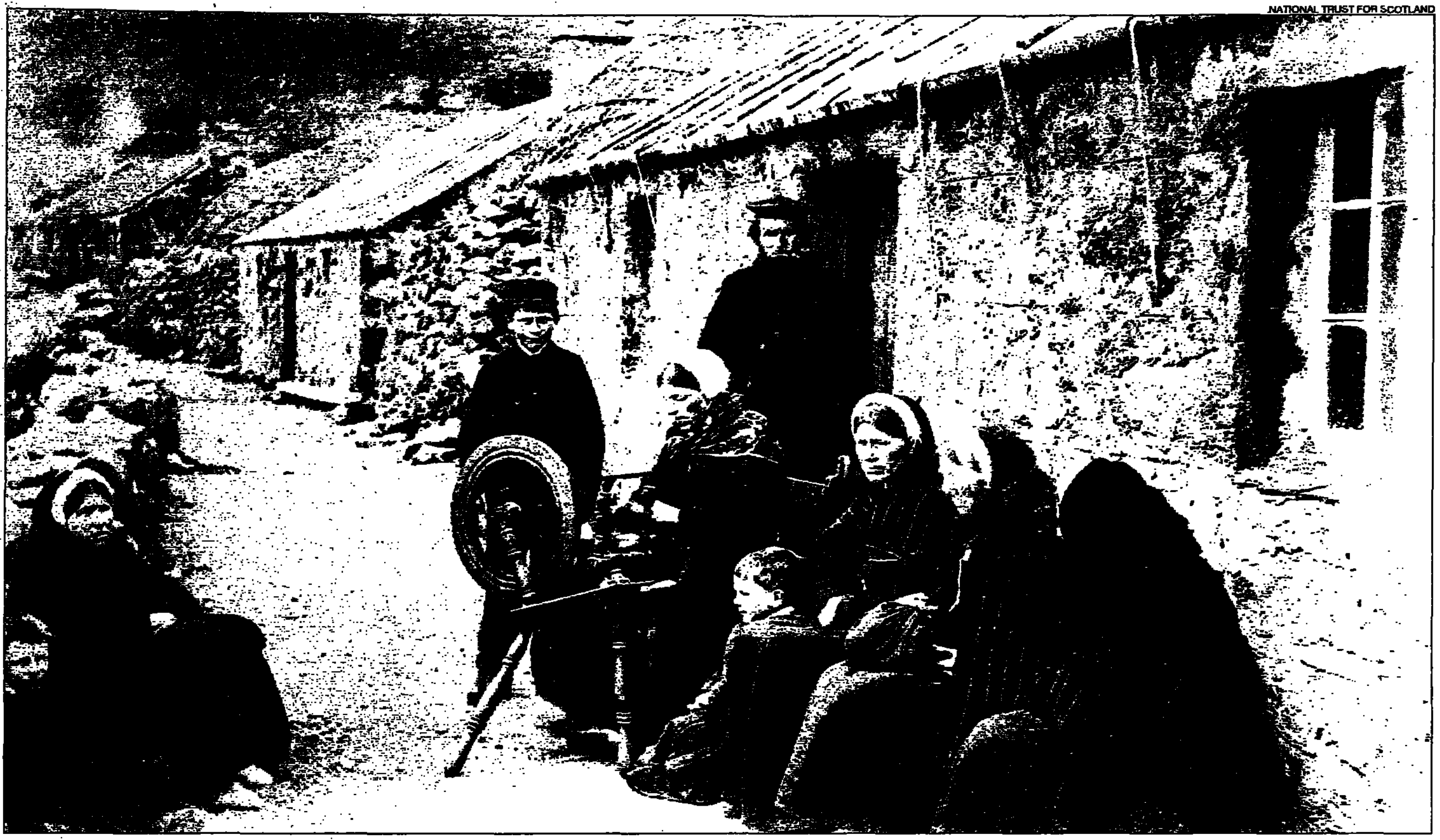
Over the sea, but not far enough away




NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND

In the 1890s, the St Kildans still followed their traditional way of life. Men and boys, trained from childhood, scaled the vertiginous cliffs to capture the thousands of birds that provided their livelihood

Perhaps we should have expected it. But as our 38ft yacht, the *Spirit of Kenbane*, nudged between the awesome cliffs above Village Bay on St Kilda, it was hard to feel charitable towards the other boats moored there.

We had hoped to have the place to ourselves. After all, this was the remotest island in Britain, fully 110 miles off the northwest coast of Scotland — so far out, in fact, that it often does not feature on maps. Apart from Rockall, there is no landmass between here and America.

Everyone dreams of remote islands, it seems. In 1996, in the five months of the year when the North Atlantic permits a landing, 1,300 visitors came, a record number. This year, according to Stuart Murray, the resident Scottish National Trust (SNT) warden whose job it is to ensure that the tourists behave themselves (St Kilda is now a globally significant bird sanctuary), the record will certainly be broken again. He recently had to cope with a cruise ship which put 280 tourists down on the island.

"Some of the cliff paths are really quite well worn," said a mature archaeology student from Aberdeen who had paid the SNT £375 to go on a fortnight's dig for a "possibly neolithic" structure above the abandoned village. "It's not nearly as isolated as I'd hoped." Apart from Mr Murray, St Kilda is home to a detachment of Royal Engineers who use the island as a missile-tracking station, and the sweetly named Puff Inn was crowded with yachties and squaddies and amateur diggers when we were there.

The magic, thankfully, has not deserted this place just yet. Inhabited for thousands of years, the last 36 St Kildans only abandoned Hirta, the main island in the group, in 1930. Their stone cottages, though mostly roofless now, still stand. And the gannets, fulmars, guillemots and puffins on which the St Kildans subsisted are thriving in their hundreds of thousands.

The St Kildan way of life was unique, though nothing was so extraordinary as their diet. Eschewing the fish that teem in these waters, the islanders' staple was boiled seabird. In the 17th century, for example, the St Kildans were catching more than 22,000 gannets each year — and this on an island where there were never more than 180 souls.

No part of the bird was wasted. The beaks were used as roofing nails, the feathers were sold to the military as pillow stuffing and the extracted oil provided heat and light and was believed to have great medicinal properties. Harvest time was a holocaust. "There is nothing but birds, fat and feathers everywhere," wrote the Rev Neil Mackenzie, who served as minister on the island until 1843. "Their clothes are literally soaked in oil, and everywhere, inside and outside their houses, nothing but feathers; often it looks as if it were snowing."

Catching these birds required extraordinary skill and courage. There was much talk on our boat, before arrival, of emulating the St Kildans and poaching a puffin or two for the pot — Keith Floyd has a recipe and says they are delicious — but a look at the vertiginous rock faces on which the birds all nest quickly changed our minds.

For the men of St Kilda, rock climbing was a rite of passage — at one time, any man who failed to climb the off-lying (and absurdly smooth and vertical) rock of Stac Biorach did not get a wife. From the age of three, therefore, St Kildan boys were encouraged to climb the walls of their houses. By 16, they were either dead or were skipping about the guano-slimed cliffs, often without ropes, and tossing throttled gannets into rowing boats waiting hundreds of feet below.

Small surprise, then, that the St Kildans evolved in a different way to their fellow countrymen. Their ankle bones were thicker than ours, while their toes were almost prehensile.

It was increased contact with the mainland that did for the community. Before the first official census was taken in 1851, those government departments that had heard of St Kilda reportedly believed it to be uninhabited. But by the turn of the century, as the islanders learnt more of the good life to be had in Glasgow, the young men left and the population began to decline. Successive crop failure and an epidemic of eczema, brought on by unbelievably harsh winter weather conditions, meant that the last to leave were not sorry to do so.

Every sheep that could be caught was brought off along with the islanders on the *Dunara Castle*; only the dogs could not be taken off, and so were drowned.

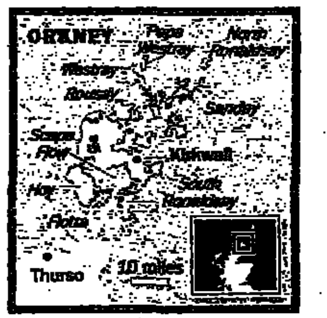
St Kilda remains an eerie place, and it is an ornithologist's dream. But for true isolation, look elsewhere — the hills of South Harris, perhaps, or even the enchanted isle of Kerrera. This is so close to the mainland — a few hundred yards across Oban Harbour, in fact — that hardly anyone ever goes there these days.

JAMES FERGUSSON

FACT FILE

- **St Kilda is a six-hour journey by boat from Harris, so the minimum stay is two days. Stay on board the *Eilean na Hearadh* at £80 per person per day (full breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal included). The vessel sleeps 12 with shower facilities. Rosa Hebridean Cruises (01859 502192).**
- **Nowhere to stay on the island but to camp. Contact Scottish Natural Heritage (01870 620238).**

Catch an island on the hop



DOUG ALLAN

The Old Man of Hoy — a popular landmark for visitors

The ferry is about to leave and the ticket man is puzzled. "Flotta?" he says. "You want to go to Flotta? You work in oil?"

No, but regular Orkney visitors — and we've been coming for ten years — tick off islands like climbers bag Munros. Today, it's Flotta.

There are 70 islands: 20 inhabited; others dotted with deserted crofts; some hardly bigger than rowing boats. They occupy their own little box in the top right-hand corner of most maps of mainland Britain. It's handy symbolism. Orkney is spiritually remote from Scotland, never mind England. There are no Mac-Tourist kilts here and, after 1,000 years of Viking influence, the atmosphere is more Scandinavian than British.

The islands are scattered like jigsaw pieces waiting to be slotted together. The obvious ones to tick off are Hoy (Old Man of), Rousay (prehistoric tombs) and Westray and Papa Westray, a geographical double-act linked by Britain's shortest scheduled flight: two minutes, or one-and-a-half with a following wind.

As the ticket man hints, Flotta is not an obvious choice for a day trip. For the past 20 years, it's been a focus of the North Sea oil industry. A perpetual yellow flame flares up from the terminal. From a distance, it has some of the mystique of Middlesbrough.

Lobster creels litter the shore, a cormorant perches on a bobbing buoy, seals bask on the rocks — and, in a distant field, gulls swarm and scream behind a threshing machine. It's a land and seascape unique to Orkney.

Hoy, where the ferry stops first, is the popular image of Orkney, but it's not typical. Its sheer cliffs, with brooding black clouds, have a craggy drama to which the other islands do not aspire.

Understatement, in the gently pastoral landscape and in the people, is the key. As the ticket man points out, Flotta means "flat island" — and bear in mind that a true Orcadian never uses two words where none will do.

An old serviceman with a British Legion badge on his blazer scans the horizon with binoculars, still on the lookout for Nazis. First time back since the war, he says, as he disembarks at Hoy.

Flotta, strategically central in Scapa Flow, played a major role in the Second World War. Thousands were stationed here on an island where nothing is more than four miles away.

Older residents remember the lanes bustling with sailors on a Saturday night. They remember Gracie Fields and George Formby on stage at the cinema, and The Archbishop of Canterbury leading an open-air service for 20,000; acres of uniforms packed in the bright green fields.

Things are quieter now — only about 100 people live on Flotta, and 200 more work at the refinery. Some of the most important residents are of the feathered kind. The islands even have a "Corncrake Line": phone up and you hear the bird's rasping cry, like an angry man tearing calico.

We pass the school where there are just eight names on the roll. It's so peaceful that cows can be heard lowing half a mile away. Suddenly to our left, we come upon a bay of opal blue that wouldn't disgrace the Caribbean.

Oystercatchers buzz us as we turn up the drive to the Post Office, its line of washing horizontal in the wind. Inside, among packets of teacakes and copies of *The People's Friend*, Mrs Sinclair presides in her pinny as postmistress, general storekeeper, petrol-pump attendant and farmer's wife.

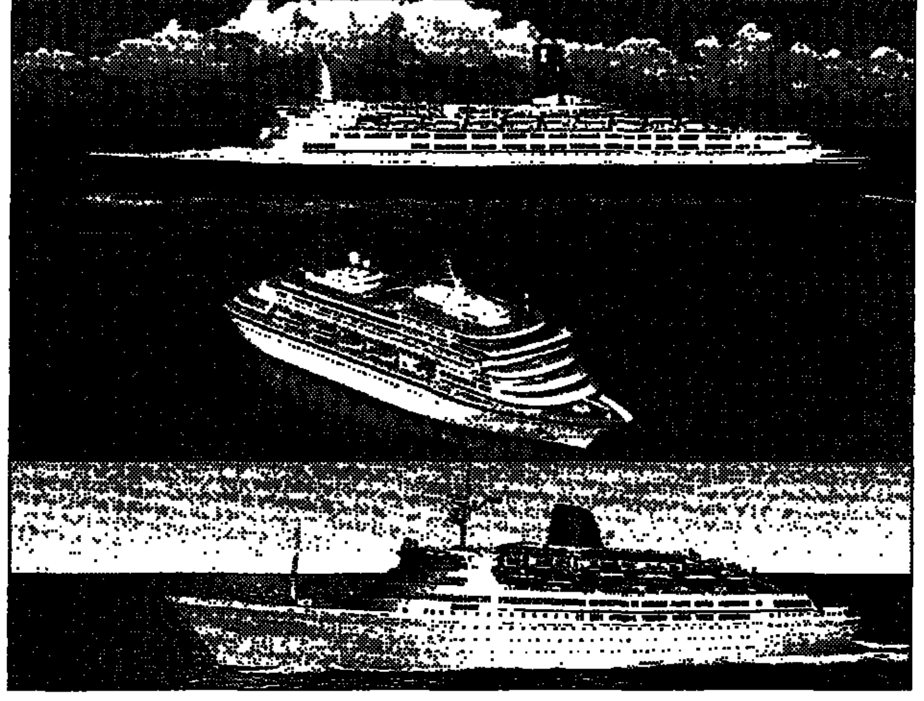
"We sell a little of everything," she says, surveying the scouring pads and lemon curd. "Boys from the refinery come down on their mountain bikes for a can of beer. When they first arrive on the island, they think it's remote. But it's not. The boats go four times a day. You'll stay for a coffee?"

Sadly, no time. We walk back to the ferry and share the boat back with crates of crabs. The old soldier boards at Hoy, the ghosts of half a century laid, still scanning the horizon. And the cormorant is still bobbing on the buoy.

STEPHEN McCLARENCE

FACT FILE

- **Getting there: By rail, coach or car to Thurso, Caithness, connecting with P&O Scottish Ferries (01856 850655) or short sea crossing (John o'Groats Ferries: 01955 611353 — no cars). Fly from London, Birmingham, Manchester, Edinburgh etc by air — with British Airways: 0345 222111 (no Sunday flights).**
- **Staying there: The Ayre Hotel, Kirkwall (01856 873001) is highly rated but Orkney has many other hotels and B&Bs. Brochure from Orkney Tourist Board (01856 872856), which also has information on inter-island ferries and flights.**
- **Eating: Unpretentious and filling bar meals are widely available — in Kirkwall, try the Kirkwall Hotel (01856 872232), the Queen's (01856 872200) or the West End (01856 872368). The Creel Restaurant at St Margaret's Hope, South Ronaldsay (01856 831311) has a good reputation.**
- **Reading: *The Orkney Guide Book* (Charles Tait Photographic), *Scottish Island Hopping* (Polygon); and the poetry and novels of Orcadian George Mackay Brown.**



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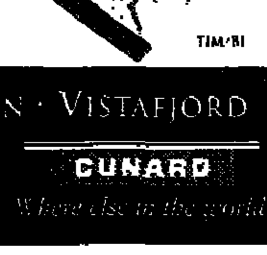

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AROUND THE WORLD: A WEEKEND GUIDE

Watch the wildlife of Mustang and trek the Tibetan plateau

MUSTANG was closed to most visitors until 1992 because of the guerrilla war with the Chinese along the Tibetan border. Although now in Nepal, Mustang is part of the high, dry Tibetan plateau and still retains much Tibetan culture. Naturetrek (01962 733051) is offering a 21-day wildlife, birdwatching and cultural trek there this summer for £2,590 inclusive. Under the expert guidance of a Nepalese naturalist, trekkers will be on the lookout for blue sheep, Tibetan argali and the elusive snow leopard, as well as barbary falcon, Tibetan partridges and Tibetan snowfinches.

TONY STONE

On the hunt: The elusive snow leopard which inhabits Mustang, now part of Nepal; visitors may also see blue sheep, Tibetan argali and barbary falcons

JILL CRAWSHAW'S **TRAVEL TIPS**

Fit to walk

LIVING up to its name, Sherpa Expedition (0181-577 2717) is organising independent or escorted walking holidays round Mont Blanc this summer and autumn. All heavy rucksacks, baggage and tents will be transported by the company and will be ready and waiting for you at the end of each day.

The circuit of Mont Blanc is aimed at the "averagely fit" who are prepared to walk between nine and 19 miles every day. It takes in three countries, starting in France and travelling through Italy before finishing in Switzerland.

The 11-day trip costs £472 for flights, nine nights' self-catering in tented accommodation and two nights' half-board in a mountain refuge. If you prefer more creature comforts, you can stay in hotels en route for £782 for B&B.

■ CAMPUS TRAVEL has a hotline (0171-881 5105) for gap-year students wanting to take a year off before going on to university. It will be open from August 1 until September 14 from 9am to midday from Mondays to Fridays. Apart from answering travel questions, staff can put callers in touch with such organisations as BUNAC (British Universities North American Council) and Raleigh International and can also give information on TEFL — Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

Learn the links

WANNABE Justin Leonards inspired by the Open can learn about links courses in Tunisia, where specialist operator Panorama Holidays (01273 206531) is offering a five-day "Learn to Play" golf package at Hammamet, based at the Hotel Phoenicia. The course costs £175 for golf-club hire, two hours' tuition daily and 100 balls a day on the driving range. A week costs £294, inclusive of half-board and flights.

Golfers with handicaps of 28 or less for men, 30 for women, can play a round at the recently completed par-73 championship course on the desert island of Djerba for £28.

On the Algarve this winter, Orient Express Hotels (0181-568 8366) has come up with an alternative for less-than-enthusiastic golfing partners staying at the Hotel Quinta do Lago.

The hotel will offer a series of master classes including tai chi and relaxation (£710 per person for a week), jazz sessions (£805), Sally Bradshaw's opera master class (£884) and strictly ballroom (£665), all on a full-board basis (without flights). A seven-day golf clinic costs £759.

Cape of good food

FRANCES BISSELL, *The Times* cook, will lead a ten-day gastronomic tour next March in search of the best food and wine in the Cape.

Lunches, dinners, cookery demonstrations and visits to vineyards and spice markets are on the itinerary, tracing Cape cuisine from its Cape Dutch and Cape Malay roots.

Cape food, says Bissell, "is a kind of fusion cooking that has been traditional for 300 years — a combination of European dishes with spices, herbs and other ingredients from south and east Asia".

Well-known examples include *bobotie*, *bredie* and *braai* — respectively a Cape moussaka, meat stew and barbecue — and at teatime, *melkterts* (curd tarts), *mossbolletjies* (baked desserts) and *oblitjies* (wafers).

The tour from ACT (Accompanied Cape Tours) will cost £2,495 (01531 660210).

Disney goes to sea

DISNEY looks set to rule the waves as well as Florida with its purpose-built 85,000-tonne ship *Disney Magic* to be launched in April next year. Its three and four-day cruises leaving from Port Canaveral will call at Nassau and at Disney's own private island, Castaway Cay, guaranteeing plenty of excitement.

Bridge Travel Service (01992 456101), the first British operator to have offered EuroDisney, has now come up with a special cruise brochure offering cruise-and-stay holidays starting at £1,206 per adult, £823 per child.

This price includes flights, three or four days at the Florida Theme Park, with accommodation and also an all-inclusive three or four-day cruise aboard *Disney Magic*.

Artistic Lille

AFTER six years of restoration, the Palais des Beaux Arts in Lille now exhibits some of France's finest art treasures including masterpieces by Courbet, Rubens, Delacroix, Picasso and Watteau, as well as two Goyas, Les Jeunes and Les Vielles.

Until August 16, a temporary exhibition of Italian drawings, from Raphael to Guardi, can be seen displayed in a new gallery under the glass roof of the museum's courtyard.

On permanent display for the first time for more than a century are relief models of the fortified towns of the north, created by the military architect Vauban. The museum is open daily, admission Fr30 (about £3).

■ THE YHA "Rent a Hostel" scheme (01727 845047) is offering 67 hostels, ranging from 16-40 beds, which can be rented exclusively by groups between October of this year until March next year. A two-night self-catering break costs between £200 and £290. And at eight of these hostels, for an extra £10.35 per person per night, all meals for the group can also be provided.

Read all about it

HOPPING round the Greek islands may never be the same again. Until this year hoppers have been able to buy tickets from quayside vendors or even on the boats themselves, as well as from agencies.

However, after serious overcrowding incidents which have threatened safety (a captain was arrested at Piraeus in 1995 for sailing with 2,725 passengers on board a ferry with a capacity of 1,200), computer ticketing has been introduced this year. This means that passengers can no longer jump aboard at the last minute without a valid ticket.

That hardy annual *Greek Island Hopping 1997* (Thomas Cook Publications, £12.95) explains how to cope with the new technology, as well as giving timetables, 230 route maps and island ratings.

The Greek National Tourism Organisation (0171-734 5997) also has a useful free leaflet called "Ferry Timetables", available now.

It's a good bet

VISITORS TO Lech in Arlberg, Austria, can gamble in the highest casino in the Alps on selected evenings this summer and on Thursday evenings in the winter. But they will not have a chance of winning anything themselves: every schilling will go to charity.

Once at the cableway station, gamblers will be taken on a "cableway bar" to 2,336 metres, the site of the Casino Lech. There they will be able to play the tables, but instead of pocketing their money they will win prizes such as cappuccinos or platters of smoked meat at the resort's various restaurants and bars.

What will happen to the real winnings? All the money will go to the Skiing for the Disabled charity.

Billion Barbies

TO CELEBRATE the billionth Barbie doll which has been sold since the little monster's arrival in 1959, the National Museum of Monaco is holding an exhibition of 110 of the dolls.

All the blonde toys will be dressed in outfits by top Parisian designers such as Lacroix, Laroche, Balenciaga and Rykiel. A further 30 dolls will be dressed in outfits worn by stars of the cinema.

The exhibition is open daily until October 10, from 10am-6pm. Admission Fr26 (£2.60), children and students Fr15.

Package holiday rescue fund goes into the red

TRAVEL **NEWS**

Millions of tourists flew from British airports last year

■ **HOLIDAYMAKERS** can expect to pay a levy on their package tours next year following a massive drain on a fund which compensates travellers when their holiday firm goes bust.

The fund, administered by the Civil Aviation Authority, is £5.3 million in the red after a series of failures in the year ending March 31, 1997.

The CAA repatriated 20,000 Britons stranded abroad and refunded a further 73,000 who had booked to travel and would otherwise have lost their money.

It is the first time the fund has been in the red since it was set up following the Clarksons package tour company failure in 1974.

The CAA has now borrowed money from the Government pending the levy, which will require legislation to enact. The CAA is pushing the Ministry of Transport for a decision.

It is unlikely that the levy will exceed £1 per person, but a decision has also to be made on whether the levy is a one-off or would be indefinite.

Meanwhile, new figures from the CAA show that in the year to the end of March, tour operators caried 21.4 million people on package holidays using charter and scheduled flights.

The growth in winter holidays is outstripping that of summer. The average price of a holiday last winter also rose, by 5 per cent, to £398.

■ **THE TOP SIX** fastest growing destinations for British Airways Holidays are, in order: northern Thailand, Lombok, the Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Jamaica and Zimbabwe.

The operator also reports that holidaymakers are increasingly happy to draw up their own itinerary instead of taking a packaged holiday. In the first half of the year, BA Holidays saw a 25 per cent growth in individually tailored holidays in its worldwide programme.

To reflect the new-found confidence of its customers, the company has added Borneo, Zanzibar and Shanghai to its 1998 brochure.

■

■ **SEVEN THOUSAND** American travel agents are to be offered their own tartan when they visit Glasgow for a conference in September.

The navy, grey, white, purple and green tartan has been designed for the American Society of Travel Agents, whose members will spend a week in the city.

The Glasgow conference expects to generate £50 million of tourism revenue in future, the Scottish Tourist Board says.

■ **TRAVELLING** to your airport hotel now costs £2 a time following a move by BAA to axe courtesy buses from its terminals.

The move is designed to ease traffic congestion particularly at Heathrow, which is often exacerbated by dozens of hotel buses crawling around the terminals. But the introduction of joint transfer buses should have been met by BAA and not the traveller, says Carlson Wagonlit, the business travel agency.

Paula Batten, general manager of Carlson's Hotels division, says: "The last thing a traveller needs is a search for loose change at the airport to take them on to the hotel.

"This is an expensive charge for a journey that takes only a few minutes."

■ **TOURISTS** planning to rent a car abroad this summer will benefit from a price war between two of the biggest companies in the leisure rental market.

Suncars this week cut brochure rates by £5 and guarantees to undercut other published rates by £10 for the summer and winter holiday seasons.

The move is in retaliation to rival Holiday Autos, which claims its bookings are 60 per cent ahead of last year, while Suncars sales remain static.

Holiday Autos is sticking by its pledge to undercut rival prices by £5.

■ **HERTZ** has packaged cross-Channel travel and Disneyland Paris tickets into its car-swap service for nervous motorists at the Channel Tunnel.

The car rental company last year introduced a scheme whereby customers can drive to the tunnel, drop their car and pick up a left-hand drive car in Calais.

Now Hertz has added return Le Shuttle tickets with entry to Disneyland, with prices starting at £190 for three days for up to seven people in a car.

■ **ANOTHER** cruise company is to include tipping in the package price. Crystal Cruises regards the practice as "outdated."

The company, which carries about 1,000 Britons a year, follows a similar move by rivals including Cunard and Royal Caribbean.

■ **WHILE THE** number of overseas package holidays sold this year exceeded nine million, more than twice as many Britons will take a seaside break at home.

Figures released this week by the English Tourist Board showed that 50 million holidays were taken by British residents in England last year. And more than a third of those loved to be beside the seaside, spending £3 billion during their stay.

The West Country remains the firm favourite for beach holidays, but tourist trips to London and the South East also rose sharply. More than 60 per cent of the country's top tourist attractions also reported an increase in visitors last year.

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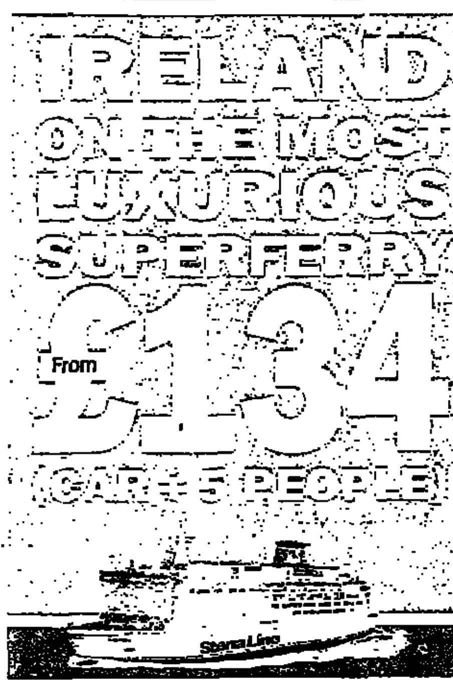

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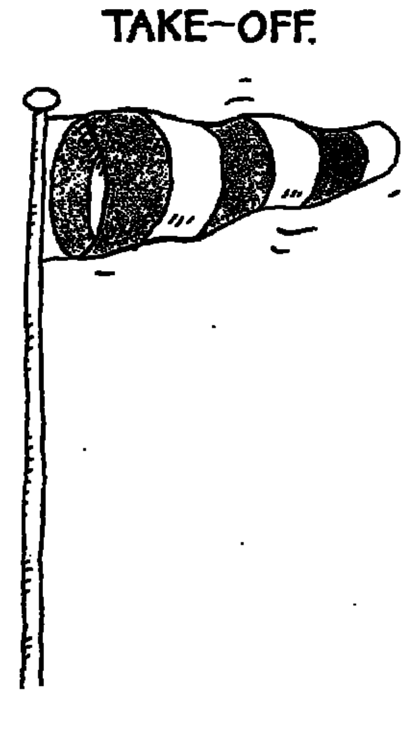

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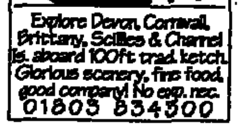

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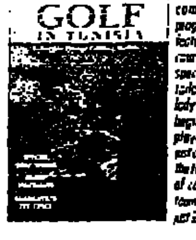

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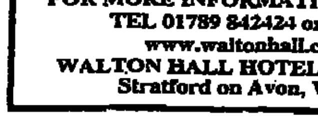

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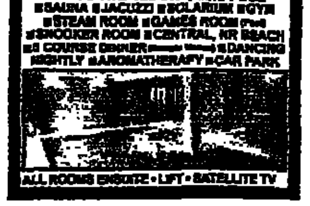

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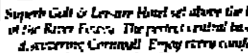

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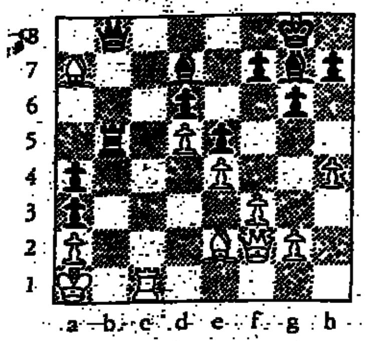
CHESS

by Raymond Keene

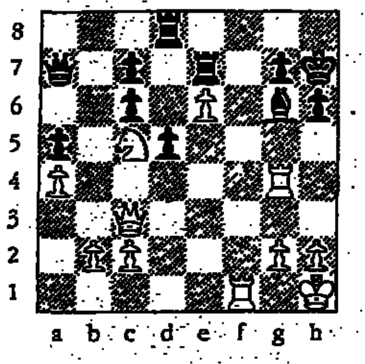
THIS week I wrap up my current examination of your postbag queries but do keep sending them in and I will return to this topic in a month or so. The following position was published as a Winning Move on Tuesday, March 11. Black to play. From the game Delva-Levchouk, Canada 1982. The danger signal here for White is the constricted position of his king. How did Black make the most of this?



Solution:
1 . . . Rc5! leaves White without a decent reply.

Mr Creton of Bath suggests White can try 2 Bc4 in reply. This would avoid an immediate calamity but Black continues 2 . . . Qxa7 and wins easily with his extra piece.

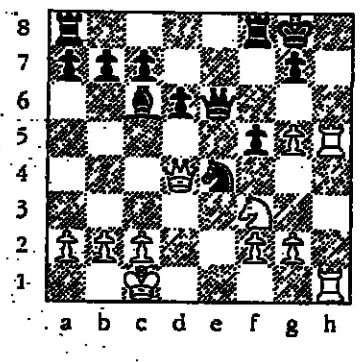
Winning Move (Thursday June 5)
White to play. This position is from the game Weeramantry-Trabert, Hawaii 1997. The white knight and e-pawn are an extremely strong unit and together tie up the black forces. It is not surprising that White can score a quick win on the kingside. Can you see how?



Solution:
1 Rxg6! Kxg6 2 Qd3+ Kh5 3 Qh3+ Kg5 4 Qf5+ Kh4 5 g3 checkmate.

Mr Dixon of Dublin suggests 3 Qf5+ forces checkmate in four moves rather than the five of the solution. If Black continued with 3 . . . Kh4, allowing 4 g3 mate, this would be the case, but after 3 . . . g5 White can do no better than 4 Rf3 with mate again on the fifth move.

Winning Move (Wednesday March 26)
White to play. From the game Alekhine-van Mindeno, Holland, 1933. White has sacrificed a piece for a strong attack along the h-file but Black still has an escape square for his king on f7. Can you work out the sequence of moves by which White bottled up the black king?



Solution:
1 Ne5! dxe5 (1 . . . Qxe5 2 Qxe5 dxe5 3 g6 and mates) 2 g6! Qxg6 3 Qc4+ and mates.

Miss M. Forman of Conwy wonders why White cannot try the immediate 1 g6 and after 1 . . . Qxg6 2 Qc4+. Unfortunately, Black would then defend with 2 . . . d5. The point of Alekhine's 1 Ne5! is to deny Black this opportunity.

It is still not too late to attend the celebrations on Monday to honour Howard Staunton, probably Britain's greatest ever chess player, when the unveiling of Staunton's long overdue headstone will take place at Kensal Green cemetery, north London. Those wishing to attend the unveiling ceremony should contact Barry Martin (0181-744 2868). There are also still some seats available for the celebration in honour of Staunton at Simpson's-in-the-Strand that evening.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

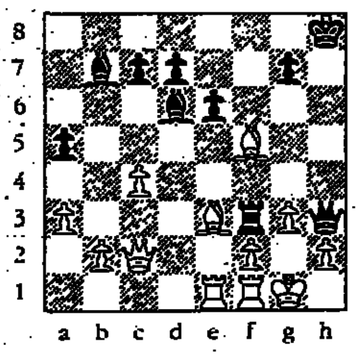
Black to play. This position is from the game Schmidt - Helms, Germany 1925.

White has attempted to distract Black from his kingside attack by offering the bait of his bishop on f5. Should Black take this, or does he have a stronger continuation?

Send your answer on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society, which includes a free invitation to the annual dinner at Simpson's-in-the-Strand. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Rd8+

Last week's winner: R I Harrison, Uckfield, East Sussex.



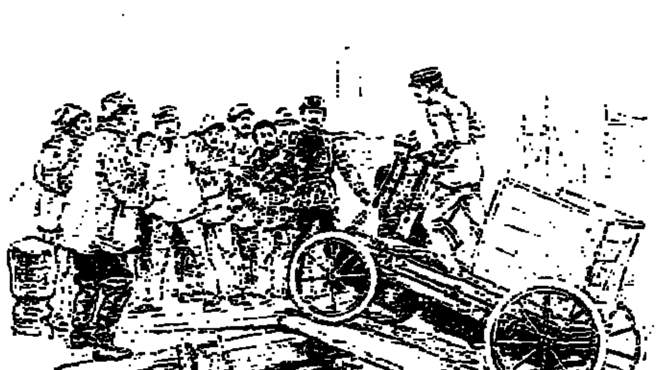
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 62, Weekend, *The Times*,
1 Pennington Street,
London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, July 30.



"Anybody order a Poachergram?"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by P.Baldwin of Glamorgan

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

JELAB
a. Sweet Indian pudding
b. A long sword
c. A hooded cloak

HOWDAH
a. Native American greeting
b. Seat on elephant
c. A costume belt

JOUGS
a. Instrument of torture
b. To jump energetically
c. A Scottish jig

HIMP
a. A hindrance
b. To complain
c. To hobble

Answers on page XX

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

Your right-hand opponent opens One Heart. What would you bid with each of these hands:
One hand per line

1) ♠AQJ43♥52♦AKJ32♣5
2) ♠KJ762♥52♦AQ4♣AQ3
3) ♠AKQ92♥-♦KJ94♣K1073

In all cases it is best to bid One Spade. Twenty years ago, many experts would double on all of them. Nowadays the style is to allow overcalls to have a wider range, more akin to opening bids. The takeout double describes a more restricted type than previously. In particular it is wrong to double with two-suiters, which is why One Spade is the bid on hand (1). That is unlikely to be passed out if there is a game on your way.

To double and then bid a suit requires a particularly good hand, of a one-suited nature. Strengthen hand (2) by a couple of points and Double would be correct; it would also be the best action with a sixth spade and 18+ points.

Hand (3) shows another expert technique — first bid your spades, and then if the opponents continue in hearts with your partner remaining silent, re-open with a double. That shows the three-suited nature of your hand.

The third hand occurred in the deal at the top of the next column, from the Nickell-Deutsch clash in the final of the 1997 US trials. Nickell's team currently hold the Bermuda Bowl, and four of Deutsch's team the Rosenblum Cup. Both events count as world championships, so ten of the eleven players involved were current world champions, the odd one out being Zia Mahmood.

Dlr North N/S Game IMPs

North:
♠J7
♥KJ76
♦10865
♣A92

West:
♠AKQ92
♥-
♦KJ94
♣K1073

East:
♠863
♥AQ10
♦732
♣8654

South:
♠1054
♥985432
♦AQ
♣QJ

S	W	N	E
M'stroth	Stansby	R'well	Martel
-	-	Pass	Pass
1 H	1 S	3 D	Pass
3 H	Dble	All Pass	

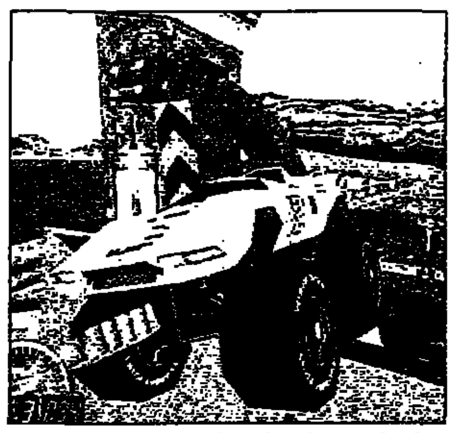
Contract: Three Hearts doubled, by South.
Lead: the ace of spades

I presume North's Three Diamonds showed a sound Three Heart raise in the Meckstroth-Rodwell system — don't ask me why. Note Stansby's treatment of his hand: overcalling and then doubling for takeout. Martel converted it to penalties by passing, as he could see that was the best chance of going plus on the hand.

Meckstroth was unlucky to find the distribution as it was. He went for 500, with 420 the maximum for East-West. Secretly it pleases me though — what is the point in opening on a nine-high suit on a sub-minimum hand with all your meagre high-card strength clotted in two doubletons? But that is the Meckwell style, and they have been the world's most successful pair over the past few years.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott



Race around an urban landscape in the controversial game Carmageddon

NOTHING whips up interest in a game better than a dollop of controversy and SCI's **Carmageddon** has managed just that. In Britain, Italy and Germany classification censors and a handful of newspaper reports deemed the game to be highly irresponsible. The result is that in these countries we can only purchase toned down versions of the game — while in all other territories worldwide the game has passed without incident and is available without any mollycoddling changes.

But this is also the age of the internet, which makes such censorship relatively ineffective. Armed with no more than a few basic computer skills, it is possible to track down and download a programming code "patch", which reverts Carmageddon to its former glory. Carmageddon is something like Doom meets Destruction Derby. You race around a massive urban landscape, competing against an array of powerful vehicles, such as beefy cars, tanks and robust pick-up trucks. The aim is not so much to complete the courses as to completely mash your opponents' vehicles.

The game is an open road dodgem ride on speed. You can hurtle up behind an opponent and spectacularly push them into barriers or lakes. Sensational crashes can see their vehicles, and often your own, hurtling through the sky and coming to land in ungracious heaps or upside down on the roofs of office blocks. Plenty of high jinks but nothing controversial there. Every good smash earns points and, more crucial, more time to keep playing. It is one of the other ways of earning time that gives the PC title its contentious content. You squelch pedestrians — or cows — and drive on leaving a trail of blood. Except in Britain we don't.

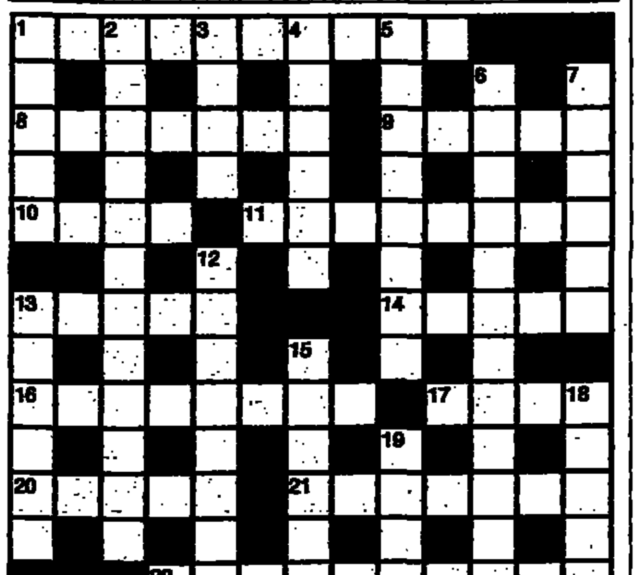
In our version we kill human-shaped monsters — or cows — and drive off leaving trails of green gunk. But even that, apparently, is too much for the squeamish Germans. In their version of Carmageddon they mow down robots which leave no mess at all. SCI has given the game a voluntary code, suggesting it is suitable for those aged 15 and over. This game is a blast, not a blastfeast. It is surprisingly engaging and pile-ups can be so spectacular that all you can do is chortle; or dryly observe that "There's been a terrible crash!". Mowing down pedestrians and animals is not the highlight of this game. These characters are not especially detailed, nor are gory limbs sent flying. Frankly, watching an episode of BBC's *Casualty* is more likely to turn the stomach. At SCI they must have cracked open the Bolly as soon as they had enticed a few journalists to condemn the title sight unseen. From that moment they knew they were onto a winner. Without it, the game could have come and gone without fuss.

Instead, the profits are pouring in, no doubt from many who hope it lives up to the claims of its critics. Imagination is invariably way ahead of reality in these cases. The publicity has also guaranteed SCI a distinct brand in the market place — something all producers dream of but can rarely predict. There is certain to be a sequel to the title next year.

Censorship of the computer world is a worrying prospect, especially when it is carried out by those who do not do their research. The ongoing debate about censoring the internet is cause enough for concern. Do we really want some global quango dictating what we can and cannot read? And so it is with games. Do we want to be spoon-fed only doctored versions of titles the rest of the world is playing and enjoying, from Canada to Cambodia? It's ludicrous that in Britain we still can't see *Clockwork Orange*, yet the rest of the planet can. But Stanley Kubrick had a point. Britain is a lucrative territory for software sales, but we're not the most important in the world and risk being sidestepped completely if we are going to cry wolf every time a title comes along which, on paper at least, seems unsavoury.

Finally, Cyberspace Thirty-Three closes on Tuesday (July 29). We have a dozen, 12-month Direct Connection internet accounts to be won worth £170 each. The subscriptions allow you to publish your own dazzling home pages so, to enter, explain in 150 words why your website would be head and shoulders above the rest. It should serve some kind of useful purpose, if only to amuse. The competition is open to all, acting on your own or collectively as part of a group seeking to run a joint effort. Send your entry, with your name, address and home telephone number, to Cyberspace Thirty-Three, Computer Games & Pastimes, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Normal Times competition rules apply and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1156

ACROSS
1 Take on risky job (4,3,3)
8 He wanted a pound of flesh (7)
9 The Lone Wolf (*Jungle Book*) (5)
10 Finger-exposing glove (4)
11 Desire to succeed (8)
13 Wash soap off (5)
14 *Merry Wives* doctor; Camb. college (5)
16 19C irregularly-living artist (8)
17 Partition (4)
20 Unspoken, understood (5)
21 Competence, skill (7)
22 Unintended; lone sharp/flat (10)

DOWN
1 Twig broom (5)
2 Exaggerate (3,2,2,5)
3 Besieged city *(Homer)* (4)
4 Igloo builder (6)
5 Lacking anything better (2,1,5)
6 One through to last four (4-8)
7 Fr. resort, has film festival (6)
12 Airtight (seal) (8)
13 Partial refund (6)
15 Former Nyasaland (6)
18 Trustworthy (5)
19 Remain (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1155

ACROSS: 1 Save 3 Malthus 8 Package 9 Goner 10 Level 11 Outback 13 Red Devils 17 Phantom 19 Porch 20 Orbit 22 Tactile 23 Burnish 24 Bead

DOWN: 1 Supply 2 Vice versa 3 Meet one's match 4 Leg/it 5 Hen 6 Stroke 7 Ballad 12 Assertive 14 Impact 15 Aplomb 16 Shield 18 Tutti 21 Bar

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THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No 3420: Headingley 81 by Phil Brindall

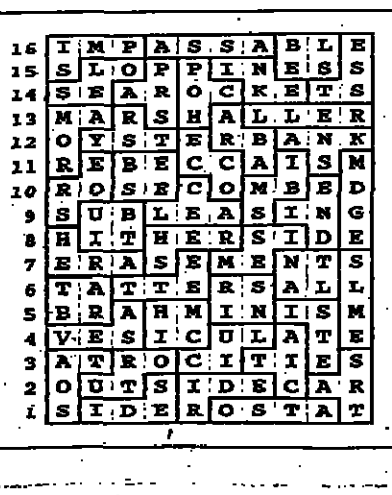
HERE is another famous Test match from my records, the Headingley Test of 1981, when England, thanks to heroics from Botham and Willis, defeated Australia, despite being forced to follow on and facing odds of 500 to 1 against. Each clue is normal (though punctuation may be misleading) and represents one individual innings, there being 12 clues for each team innings (11 batsmen + extras), but answers must be adjusted before entry in the grid by adding the batsman's score. This is in most cases done by using Roman numerals. So, for example, if the answer is REVIVE, the batsman's score is 2, and there are 6 available squares, it could be entered as REVVIE (iv+2=vi) or REVIVE (v+1=vi, iv+i=v). The answers to 9 clues are to be adjusted using three other number systems (one appearing 5 times, one 3 times, and one once). In 4 of these 9, Roman numerals are used as well. 8 of the 9 can be deduced by the fact that it is impossible to fit them in using Roman numerals alone. Adjusted answers are to be entered from their side of the grid. Those marked R are to be entered in reverse.

AUSTRALIA 1st Innings (Total 401 for 9 decl)
ACROSS
1 (Dyson 102) Put together hundred in valuable exhibition — Dyson's the tops! (5)
2 (Wood 34) England's initial break (55-1) badly needed (4)
3 (Chappell 27) 59-4, Australia's last 3 nonplussed — is this filtering through? (8)
R4 (Hughes 89) Six! Botham's end! What power! (3)
R5 (Bright 7) Wield a bat, setting things alight here in Indian summer? (6)
6 (Yallop 58) Ian be teetotal? Change for one used to high living! (7)
R7 (Border 8) In with tail, Ian is - they make joint contribution (4)
8 (Marsh 28) Perhaps preparing to take off one in testing circumstances (7)
R9 (Lawson 13) Containing number 4 initially called for old hand (5)
10 (Lillee 3 not out) Time and again "bowled Willis" — no determination! (3)
11 (Alderman 0 not out) Picture changes (top edge dropped). What relief at such an escape! (6)
12 (Extras 32) Cricket team in Test come-back makes one dance (6)

ENGLAND 1st Innings (Total 174)
DOWN
1 (Gooch 2) Sounds like he produces great pace with curve that straightens (5)
2 (Boycott 12) Sign of victory? Willis' heart bristles! (5)
3 (Brearley 10) 150? One short — greatest, most exciting bit of play (6)
4 (Gower 24) Downhill Willis shows great hostility (7)
R5 (Gatting 15) Uncontrolled merriment from one about opening boundary (3,4)
6 (Willey 8) This shows time and place for eleven in changed side (6)
R7 (Botham 50) Show a little bottle on way to 50 (4)
8 (Taylor 5) One needs line and length badly (3)
9 (Dilley 13) Old contained number 6, being experienced (5)
10 (Old 0) Left one with back to the wall? He's history! (4)
R11 (Willis 1 not out) Trifle upset by Old drop . . . (6)
12 (Extras 34) . . . one's put down twice in a row here? (4)

ENGLAND 2nd Innings (Total 356) — Right to Left
R1 (Gooch 0) One put on 50 with previous partner, Wood (4)
2 (Boycott 46) Extra worthless for one in contention to grab 50 (5)
R3 (Brearley 14) Good this news for Australians — one left to follow on (3)
4 (Gower 9) English with 50 from Dilley changed story (rustic, it's stated!) (4)
R5 (Gatting 1) Takes excessive speed, perhaps, to reduce odds (500 to one) (3)
R6 (Willey 33) Name of one out of favour? Marsh, perhaps? (3)
7 (Botham 149 not out) Moving back close fielders surrounding English is plausible? (6)
R8 (Taylor 1) Dismiss in unbelievable victory (5)
R9 (Dilley 56) This seed set light to come-back (3)
10 (Old 29) Number one sent back, following on - it's enough to make one weep! (5)
11 (Willis 2) They have one on one's knees, paste one all over the place! (6)
R12 (Extras 16) Is one from home counties now quite an elder statesman? (5)

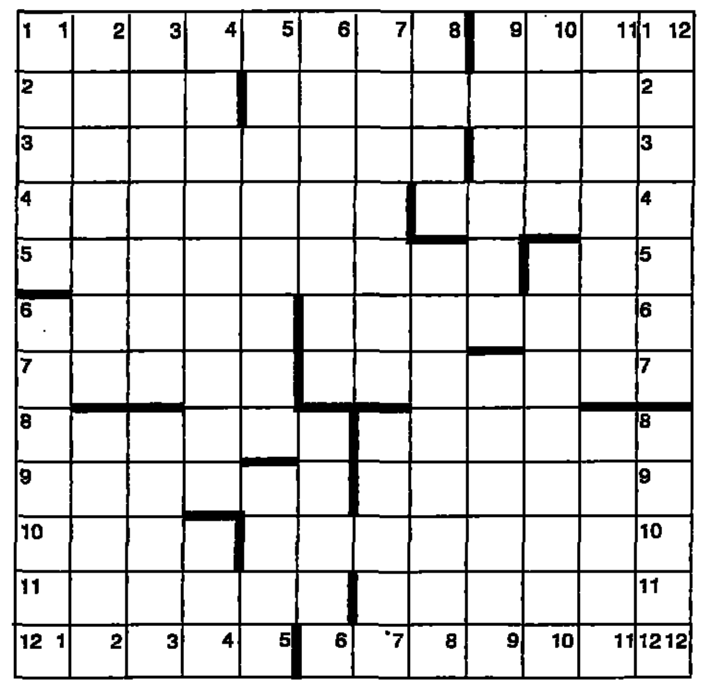
AUSTRALIA 2nd Innings (Total 111) - Up
1 (Dyson 34) Rank shabby stuff from English (4)
R2 (Wood 10) Australian debacle (last one out). They've got no tail (5)
3 (Chappell 8) End of Chappell - Trevor's middle one? 3rd son of dynasty! (4)
4 (Hughes 0) That thing's the end of Hughes after appeal (3)
5 (Yallop 0) English batting ecstasy for old viewers (4)
6 (Border 0) Gambling on losing 500? It's a bit over the top! (5)
7 (Marsh 4) Old fashioned short extra cover is brought in quickly (6)
8 (Bright 19) Appeal one orchestrated, used wind to get movement (6)
9 (Lawson 1) Fall second ball (5)
10 (Lillee 17) Heroic century after English confusion (4)
11 (Alderman 0 not out) Order change like this (5)
R12 (Extras 18) One Chris brought back like a charm (Old one to be seen) (4)



16	I	M	P	A	S	S	A	B	L	E
15	S	L	O	P	P	I	N	E	S	S
14	S	E	A	R	O	C	K	E	T	S
13	M	A	R	S	H	A	L	L	E	R
12	O	Y	S	T	E	R	B	A	N	K
11	R	E	B	E	C	C	A	I	S	M
10	R	O	S	E	C	O	M	B	E	D
9	S	U	B	L	E	A	S	I	N	G
8	H	I	T	H	E	R	S	I	D	E
7	E	R	A	S	E	M	E	N	T	S
6	T	A	T	T	E	R	S	A	L	L
5	B	R	A	H	M	I	N	I	S	M
4	V	E	S	I	C	U	L	A	T	E
3	A	T	R	O	C	I	T	I	E	S
2	O	U	T	S	I	D	E	C	A	R
1	S	I	D	E	R	O	S	T	A	T

1. **OST(I)A** hidden 2 **S(L)IDE** 3 **S(T)ART** s+art 4 **ROU(S)T** 5 **ID(L)ER** (c)ider 6 **AT(T)IC** ti in ac 7 **(S)ULCI** hidden 8 **(O)HMIC** HM+ic 9 **IST(L)E** anag 10 **N(O)TAL** (fro)ntal 11 **R(O)SIN** I's (rev) in RN 12 **SIME(S)** hidden 13 **(T)END** etn+D(ominus) 14 **(Z)IMBS** initial letters 15 **(J)ATOS** to in as 16 **(L)AVES** 17 **ETT(L)E** -ette as sfx 18 **TAB(O)R** tab+r 19 **HER(L)S** 20 **HE(J)RA** HE+r+a 21 **CLEA(T)** anag 22 **(S)ECCO** 23 **ARBA(S)** arba(Lester) ref L. Piggott 24 **PO(T)CH** anag 25 **(O)UBIT** U+bit 26 **(Z)EROS** 27 **(O)BESE** b(e)e(f) s(t)e(w) 28 **SL(I)ME** anag of smel(l) 29 **(T)RYST** Ry+St 30 **M(I)DGE** eg+dm (rev) 31 **PAR(T)S** 32 **(T)ANKS** anag 33 **(I)LLER** L+initial letters 34 **(Z)INKE** 35 **(J)ESTS** est+S 36 **B(O)LES** 37 **MA(J)OR** m(usic)+AOR 38 **LOSE(S)** anag 39 **(L)IMPS** 40 **ASSA(I)** as+SA

The winner is D.Jennings of Manchester.
The five runners-up are Chris Williams of Peacehaven, East Sussex; J.Harding of Portishead, Bristol; Clive Spate of Woodthorpe, Nottingham; M.Harington of Fulham and L.Duthie of Croydon.



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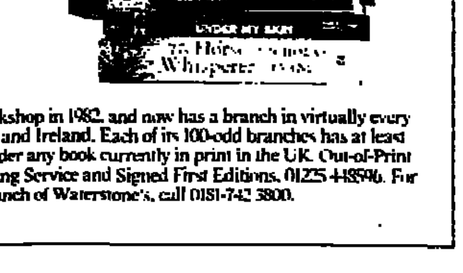

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ABOUT Anglia: Happy, attractive woman (loves computer/ cooking), sensitive, spirited, stylish, slim, solvent; seeks similar Super-Man! aged 38/55. 6512 ☎ ✍

ALONE in Cambridge Enfield Hertford London Stevenage? Elite Introductions can help you find the right partner. Call 0181 374 4001: 0500 103410

AMERICAN Princess, 39, blonde, slim, curvy & passionate just about everything WLTM international sophisticated man 40ish-50ish, emotionally strong, generous & successful who would enjoy spoiling her. London. Photo to Box 6436 ✍

ANDOVER/Salisbury. 25 mile radius. The start of something special. Elite Introductions 07000 781 981 open 7 days

ARE you aged 35-60 living in Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Swindon, Glos, Somerset or S. Wales? Are you seeking that 'special lady'? Look no further, let us help you meet her. Individual selective introductions. Please contact Perfect Partners of Bath tel 01225 482080

ARTICULATE attractive, out going, independent 40's, divorced, GSOH. Interests: people, sports (various), good restaurants entertaining, fashion and travel. Requirements: simply an intelligent gentleman 45-59. Photograph please. London/SE area. Reply to Box No 6450 ☎ ✍

ATTRACTIVE sunny natured blonde WLTM N/S man up to 60 with savoir faire. Adventures & animals, arts & antiques, sailing & Scrabble, music & dancing, walking & wining, loving & romance - maybe. Interested? Please write. No married men, thank you. SOH & integrity - yes, please. NWest. Box 6446 ✍

LADIES

ATTRACTIVE, slim, fit N/S no ties, Glos. based. Enjoy walks, arts, gardening, home, travel etc. WLTM similar intelligent sincere gent with GSOH & honour 49-58. Photo plse. Box 6434 ✍

ATTRACTIVE, elegant, blonde (London based), tactile, 50, looking for companionship, fun & laughter. WLTM elegant older man who knows how to treat a woman. Photo plse. Box 6613 ☎ ✍

ATTRACTIVE 40's London intelligent, passionate, seeks older very successful male. Box 6430 ☎ ✍

AUBURN-HAIRED, brown eyed, sophisticated, very attractive slim lady, professional, occasional smoker, positive & lively WLTM a professional sensitive, solvent, emotionally aware, considerate male 42-50. West Herts/ London based. Recent photo essential. Box No 6470 ✍

BATH/Bristol postcode areas For attractive and successful introductions, call Chris now at Elite: 7 days. 0117 973 6663

BERKS Oxon & Wilts Call Elite Introductions and take the first step towards the rest of your life 0500 003444: 7 days

COSMOPOLITAN, interesting, attractive, single Jewish girl, 34, loves sport, the arts and travelling, looking for an open minded, very interesting and fun loving man 35-45 for a permanent meaningful relationship. London based. Photo appreciated Reply Box No 6352 ☎ ✍

DO African sunsets, French countryside, Italian cities, dancing under the stars, log fires in winter, walking hand in hand through the snow appeal to a cultured gentleman 45+ who is sincere, passionate, adventurous & fun to be with. If so, I am a darkhaired petite curvy lady (Cotswolds), independent, impetuous, spontaneous & animal loving - who is an incurable romantic (obviously) & WLTM you. Photo. Box 6522 ✍

ELEGANT, attractive, articulate 35 year old professional lady seeks charming gentleman with similar attributes and GSOH. Photo appreciated. London/ Warks Box No 6518 ☎ ✍

ELEGANT blonde lady late 40's wishes to meet prof business man with SOH in Yorkshire. Interests are travelling, socialising and sport. Reply Box No 6321

FABULOUSLY forty, Dulcinea (London based), having survived previous 3 decades with good looks, good figure & SOH intact, & possessing an abundance of strength, poise, charm, style & wit, now questing for the impossible dream - a secure (emotionally & financially) unattached, cultured, sophisticated, amusing, caring & sensitive male, preferably handsome & aged 45-60, with whom to share the pleasure of friendship & possibly the joy & excitement of life & love. No wimps, weaklings or tortured souls need apply. Detailed letter, photograph & telephone number please. Box No 6459 ✍

GENTLEMEN - too busy to find romance? We have over 500 ladies with style. Call Elite now - your local introduction and social events service for the West Midlands and Warwickshire 0121 323 3314: 7 days

GOD must have truly loved the common man, having made so many of them! Now how about one (45-60) who'd value a vivacious, attractive, pocketsized Venus. (Wilts/Hants based). Must have GSOH. ALA. Box No 6343 ✍

GOOD-LOOKING & successful, highly educated professional, slim, elegant brunette with blue green eyes, caring, loyal & straightforward young early 40s. Enjoys theatre, cinema, good food, travel & reading. Seeks compatible, attractive, sincere professional, N/S, 40's. London. Photo plse. Box 6342 ☎ ✍

GORGEOUS fun loving female golfer, seeks fun loving low handicapper to play a round! 40-60 Photo please London/ Home Counties Box 6507 ☎ ✍

HOW much more of your life are you prepared to waste, ready for the Executive Club yet? E.C. 07000 499 8833

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I AM a fascinating, beautiful & passionate woman in my late 40s. I am an artist by nature & profession, resourceful, sensitive & a deeply serious person yet at the same time I have GSOH. I enjoy all the arts + am interested in yoga, animals, travelling, etc. I'm a bit of a magician who tells fortunes & makes people happy. Originally from the Ukraine, recently divorced. WLTM reliable, serious, sensitive & kind man of 47+ for a full & lasting relationship. South Coast. Please Reply with a photo to Box No 6428 ☎ ✍

I HAVE a wonderful life (bit of a workaholic though) but miss the sharing. If you're around 45-55, attractive, interesting & fun, why not write enclosing a likeness to this independent, petite, slim brunette. London/ Home Counties. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6517 ✍

INTELLIGENT, attractive widow, 54, used to high quality life in London & Sussex would very much like to meet, with marriage in mind, a kind, loving, chivalrous gentleman who is or has been in a senior position & is aged between 55-75. Please Reply to Box No 6460 ✍

LOOKING for Mr. Right, he can entertain me by day & night, someone funny, bright & sincere, tall & handsome, own teeth & hair. If you're between 36 & 45, like to talk, wine, dine & jive, I may be your woman who paints & writes, divorced with 2 gorgeous children who no longer keep me up nights. London based. Box No 6480 ☎ ✍

PRETTY lady, 50s, slim, kind, loving seeks intelligent, kind, sensitive gentleman, 55-65, with no emotional baggage to share mutual interests and joie de vivre. London area. Box 6529 ✍

PROFESSIONAL Black French/ West Indian woman seeking companion for a Caribbean holiday 9/11/97 for two weeks and possibly longer. Must be over 34, romantic, attractive, compassionate, energetic, nonsmoker and be solvent. Please Reply with photo to Box 6395 ✍

STYLISH attractive lady of means, homes England and South of France, WLTM mature gentleman of good standing, age unimportant. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6483 ✍

SUSSEX Girl 5'6", slim, fit & fair, loves sport (tennis, golf), theatre & music. WLTM educated boy 50-60 to share the thrills & spills of life & the quiet times. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6532 ☎ ✍

VIVACIOUS, good looking, 35 year old, passionate, professional lady WLTM equal in a man who likes the finer things in life. Photo please. London/ Beckenham Reply Box No 6505 ☎ ✍

WELL balanced, attractive, educated, petite widow, fair haired, now ready to live again and share travel, theatre, etc. with a cheerful lively 60ish gentleman. Near London. Photo please. Box No 6112 ✍

WHITBY School tchr. Pretty, yng. 40, Folkie, hiker, seeks similar male. Photo please. Box 6533

WHO can't be a member. We must be proud of each member every member interviewed. Poor manners? We ask you to leave, E.C. St James's

ZZZzzz Wake up! Club Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

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COMPANION, lover, friend: Late forties lady, reformed workaholic, seeks retired/semi retired male to share love for music, books, ideas, travel & each other. Kent/London/ anywhere. Photo/phone no appreciated. Reply to Box No 6244 ✍

BEAUTIFUL music, colour, light - share these with this slim, smiling, sensitive & sparky woman who is looking for a N/S, tall man 48-58. London/Surrey. Box No 6308 ☎ ✍

CREATIVE, articulate professional, 40's, tall, slim, attractive Sussex based mother WLTM sensitive, sincere, solvent N/S man (brave too), 46-55 for long term relationship. Photo please. Box No 6272 ✍

EASY-GOING, attractive, fun loving, slim prof business lady, recently widowed, no ties, financially independent, well travelled. Enjoys skiing, golf, & the occasional race meeting. Seeks considerate, caring gentleman (50+) with good conversation, well educated & socially confident. Mids/London. Please Reply with photo to Box 6224 ✍

EX PAT, Dynamic, slender, pretty brunette 5'7". Enjoys the arts, tennis, bridge, skiing. Loves country, mountains and seashore walks, dogs, cities. WLTM single, cultured, cosmopolitan, caring gentleman 50-65, VGSOH for lasting quality friendship. Please reply with recent photo to Box No 5952

ESHER Kingston and surrounding areas (KT postcode), alone and rather not be? One local phone call could put you in touch with the person you are seeking. Elite Introductions call now 0181 547 2577

GENTLE, lovely, slim blonde professional graduate, 29, WLTM tallish N/S professional man to share the good things in life, music, art, theatre, travel, etc. Photo appreciated. Cambridge area. Reply Box No 6237 ✍

JUST out there again - this bright, slim, 5'6", pretty brunette, sociable, 43, GSOH, 13 yr old son, Cambs area seeks kindly, friendly, cheerful & solvent man for walking, talking & laughing. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6302 ✍

PRETTY, Anglo-Italian professional seeks affectionate, tall, sensitive, N/S professional 28-35, similar background, interested Arts, other cultures for friendship, hopefully more. Photo. London. Box No 6267 ☎ ✍

SEARCHING for that elusive East/West combination? An attractive single woman of intelligence, GSOH, charm & modesty! This Indian professional lady enjoys life to the full, from sports, books, restaurants, log fires, travel to Personal Development & more! WLTM her counterpart, any nationality, between 38-45 years. London based. Photo & letter essential. Box No 6248 ✍

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BORN-AGAIN, committed Conservative Evangelical male, residing in Scottish Central Belt, single, mid 40's, 6' tall, financial analyst. Interests include keep fit, sightseeing, fishing, Reformed and Puritan theology, Bible Study and evangelism. Seeks likeminded lady to establish friendship leading to permanent marriage relationship. Distance no object - UK. Please Reply to Box No 6264 ✍

BRAINY, humorous, dynamic, sexy, warm & loving. If this describes you, then you could finally meet your soulmate in this 32 year old male. Londonbased. Box No 6504 ☎ ✍

HANDSOME, kind, 175 tall, middle, 31 years WLTM buxom blonde lady, 23 to 30 yrs who needs friendship and love. Please Reply with photo to Box No 6495 ✍

ANDREW, 23 years - 5'9", Green eyes, dark hair - Pretty good looking (on good days). Other times I just look in the mirror & refuse to believe it's me. Apparently, I'm moody looking which is sad 'cos I'm a happy little soul most've the time! I love shopping, restaurants, talking, theatre, ghost stories, cinema, holidays & then a bit more shopping. I live in London during the week and Hampshire at the weekend. I love animals esp. dogs, horses & foxes (I don't hunt them - I feed them in the garden & then sit up to watch them eat - Sad or what!) I hate - Parties, selfish people, sport on TV & lots of other things/ people (I could go on all day about who/ what I dislike!) I asked my best friend to describe me & she said I'm very kind, very caring but with a bit of a dark side. Deep eh!? But then she hasn't said anything really sensible since we were in the 6th form, so don't listen to her! I work very hard, own my own company & hardly ever get the chance to meet new people - Hence this ad. If you're 20-30+ & never thought you'd answer an advert like this - Then do! I never thought I'd place one & it'd be so embarrassing if I don't get one single reply. Oh & enclose a photo (of you!) Box No 6475 ✍

CAMBS: Tall, slim, athletic, non-egg-head, but artistic, cultured, mid-aged widower WLTM warm-hearted elegant soulmate. I am solvent and brimming with TLC; love children, kind & considerate. All letters will receive a (courteous) reply - photo, please. Quo vadis? Reply Box No 6330 ✍

CARING tall, professional male, attractive, well built, young 46, sensitive, intelligent, n/s, GSOH seeks similar easy going well proportioned larger lady aged 38-52 N. West Box 6468 ☎ ✍

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DYNAMIC, N/S, London based man in mid 60's finds this unexpected opportunity to look for a girl, lady, woman, friend to enjoy the finer things in life. Why not send me your photograph, telephone number & leave the rest to the Times & me. Looking forward to your reply. Box No 6473 ✍

GENTLEMAN, 57, early retired professional, presentable & socially acceptable. Lincs/ Northants/ Cambs border - less than 1 hr from London, Leeds & Birmingham, so not the end of the world to meet an interesting up market lady. Letter & photo please to Box 6458 ✍

GOOD-LOOKING, caring, assertive, successful businessman, 40 WLTM very attractive lady under 40 who wishes to enjoy the finer things in life in a fun 1-to-1 relationship. Recent photo/tel no ensures reply. London/anywhere. Box 6631 ☎ ✍

HANDSOME 48, well preserved, intelligent, loyal, caring, affectionate, VGSOH, solvent, WLTM similar lady 35 - 45 for lasting relationship. Photo please. North Surrey. Reply to Box No 6502 ☎ ✍

HEDONISTIC, tactile, professional, 44, Capricorn, 5'8", fit, own business, often silly, WLTM outgoing, stunning, slim lady for wining, dining, travelling, sports, music, sunshine, laughter and a super cool, lasting relationship. Photo essential. Sussex, Surrey & London. Please Reply to Box No 6347 ✍

RICH & boring? Sorry, we still won't work for you. The Executive Club of St James's

SHY but reputedly handsome physically strong man 44 (brown eyes, dark hair and complexion) seeks inviting woman to bring him out of himself and show that sparkle. N London. Photo plse Bx 6444 ☎ ✍

SOCIALLY acceptable, intelligent chap, 41, perfectly decent looking, slim, 5'9", usually smart, generally relaxed, always honest. Own West London home, classic English SOH, eclectic interests inc. collecting antiques, old houses, gym, all music, arts, Caroc (beginner), history, design, films. Ideally you share these, are slim, pretty, have good dress sense, 30-41, N/S essential. Box 6464 ✍

SPORTY, humorous, Male, 34, Irish, 5'9", slim, enjoys tennis, golf, music, animals, cinema etc WLTM outgoing, fit, positive attractive girl 24+ to share his quality life. London/Home Counties. Photo guarantees reply. Box No 6509 ✍

SUCCESSFUL, highly energetic, London based business man 35 WLTM woman 25-35 interested in French language. Must have GSOH and enjoy sport, eating, drinking, and just about anything that can be described as fun. Reply to Box No 6527 ✍

THE best people are to be found at The Executive Club. Every member interviewed, call E.C.

WIDOWER architect, 66, tall WLTM attractive, stylish, N/S widow c.60 or younger for travel, cultural visits, etc. W/S Midlands. Photo. Box No 6462 ✍

ZZZzzz Wake up! Club Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

GAY guy, 34, straight acting/looking, professional, fit, sporty, sorted. Very solvent, great lifestyle/friends, mainly straight. VGSOH/personality. Seeks similar masculine together guy with a life, who's fun, easy going, honest, affectionate. Enjoys all typical bachelor pursuits and genuinely wants to establish a sound worthwhile relationship. Midlands/London. Box No 6474 ✍

GAY men London/Home Counties seeking long term relationships - ring Significant Others - the gay intro bureau for professionals. 0171 494 0009

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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AARD seeks Vark. Incomplete but solvent single parent, 40's, N/S, gregarious recluse, neat & untidy, tongue-tied wit, slothfully energetic, indoor & outdoor interests, mature, culture & sport. WLTM Princess Vark 30ish to 40ish with enough similarities to make match & enough differences to add the spice. London/Essex & environs. Photo. Box No 6205 ✍

BUSY lifestyle, successful Oxbridge graduate (58), no ties, active and energetic, reforming workaholic, interests include classical music, travel, theatre, arts, socialising, gardening, sport, keeping fit seeks articulate, intelligent professional/ academic woman, for caring relationship, marriage if compatible, ideally will to consider starting or extending a family. London area. Photo appreciated and returned. Please Reply to Box No 6263 ✍

CHOOSY? So are we. The UK's top unattached join The Executive Club of St James's

EDUCATED, slim, lady sought by professional W Mids based male, 37 to share cultural evenings & days out together. Photo please. Box No 6254 ☎ ✍

ESHER Kingston and surrounding areas (KT postcode), alone and rather not be? One local phone call could put you in touch with the person you are seeking. Elite Introductions call now 0181 547 2577

INTERESTING, well-travelled, fit, sporty (cycling, water sports etc) attractive, 6 ft, male (38) GSOH, successful, eclectic tastes (including black/white old films, collecting books) WLTM stimulating fit female 30-40. London/ Home Counties. Photo. Reply to Box No 6300 ☎ ✍

IRISH Farmer, 37 yrs old, not bad looking, kind, sincere, would like to meet lady for loving relationship. Photo appreciated. Plse Reply to Box No 6227

MISSION impossible or is it? I've been given the task of finding a very special someone for a charming friend who is 51, divorced, no children. Romantic, highly intelligent, humorous & sincere. Enjoys a fine life style, diverse interests, homes in London, country & abroad. Light smoker (his only major fault). Overall a very desirable character (honestly!) If you are between 33-38ish, attractive, nationality unimportant, intelligent, well read & already established on the ladder of life, preferably no children but would like some, please respond with recent photo/ telephone no. to Box No 6283 ✍

SENSITIVE Upper Class girl 20s/30s, n/s, who would not normally reply sought by eligible, tall Oxbridge widower. Wife sadly died aged 34, daughter 15. Old enough to be your father but full of go. Listed house, Kent village. Distance unimportant. Total love, loyalty. Everybody would approve. Nobody need know how we met. Box No 6286 ☎ ✍

SUFFOLK based 60 yr young, 6'1", country loving gentleman with all the right qualities. Oxford degree, own successful business. Seeks happy lifestyle with warm & attractive lady. Please let me send you photos & details. Reply to Box No 6277 ✍

TALL, athletic, successful businessman, forties, SW1 based looking to care for, amuse & enjoy life with a special lady who has a great figure & smile to match. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6000 ✍

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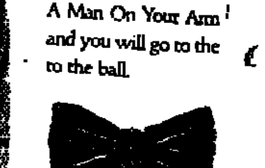

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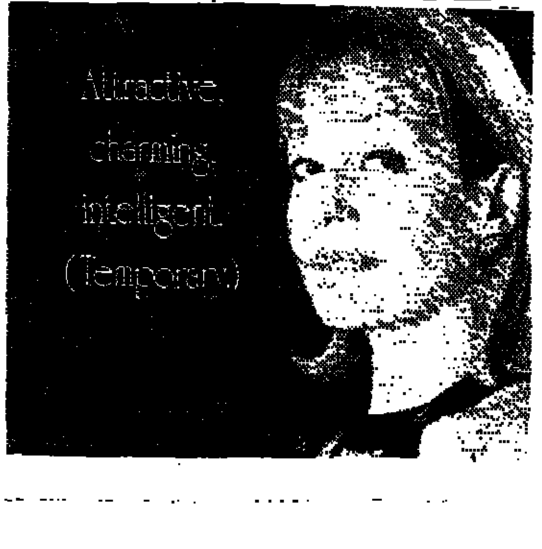

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How to win when buying an R-reg car

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THE TIMES

CAR 97

Why the XK8 is right for Carol Vorderman

Page 8

SATURDAY JULY 26 1997

Jeep thrill that started a craze

Axe accessory is miles from modern equipment, and legally rather dodgy

PETER TRIEVNOR

Suddenly an unrehearsed wartime re-enactment occurred when a 1944 Piper Cub in US markings landed at Andrewsfield aerodrome, the former American airbase where the Jeep had been parked

Stuart Birch drives the legendary warhorse that began the fad for off-roaders

The policeman in London's Piccadilly was adamant: "You have an axe fixed to the side of your vehicle, sir. An axe could be an offensive weapon. Please remove it at once."

Richard Gadeselli considered his words for a moment: "But officer, that would mean I would have to walk down Piccadilly carrying the axe. Do you think that's a good idea?"

The policeman saw *Catch22* looming. He even smiled — slightly: "All right, just don't let me see you with it again, on your vehicle or on your person."

Gadeselli's vehicle is a Second World War Jeep, accurately restored to the finest detail including a white star on its bonnet, jerry can on its rump — and the axe. It has all the rugged character, the cheeky charm, the hint of adventure that has given the Jeep a special place in history.

In Normandy, North Africa or the Pacific islands, by 1945 the Jeep had become ubiquitous, its real-life deeds enhanced by John Wayne and a legion of Hollywood greats.

Says Gadeselli, "When I found my Jeep on a farm near Worthing, it wasn't a Jeep — it was just a mass of bits.

"But I wanted to undertake a restoration project and a Jeep seemed a good idea because it had no interior trim — always a problem with old cars. I thought that with a few spare parts I could just screw everything together, wield a paintbrush and that would be that. However, it took me three years, working 16 hours a week."

Gadeselli found many of the missing bits in Italy, where many abandoned Jeeps were used as farm vehicles. He is still buying spares there: very convenient as he is UK head of corporate affairs for the Fiat Group.

He bought a "new" wiring loom. When he asked Firestone if they could help with tyres, they found two sets still in their original greased paper protective wrapping. Such finds are still possible. "A few weeks ago I bought a Purolator oil filter, unused, in its original box — brand new, 50 years old."

As Gadeselli's Jeep took shape, he found the basket of bits he had bought for £750 constituted a rare communications version. He even managed to find the right aerial.

The name Jeep probably comes from it classification as a "General Purpose Wagon — GPW". Well over half a million were built during World War II.

Jeeps were often used by soldiers and airmen who had never driven before, so the handbook explains what brake, clutch and throttle pedal are for, and red paint was daubed on items like the dipstick that needed regular checking. "Although basic, the Jeep had surprisingly sophisticated touches: an all-synchromesh three-speed gearbox, hydraulic brakes and choice of two or four-wheel-drive plus low-ratio transfer box, " says Gadeselli.

In the early morning, Jeeps would be started and left to tick over until the engine was hot: "GIs had to be clean-shaven even in battle areas, so once the engine had warmed thoroughly, the radiator cap would be removed and shaving brushes dipped in the header tank water."

Although generally reliable, if a Jeep suffered an engine problem at night, the headlamps could be pivoted to illuminate the engine compartment.

With all this in mind I sampled the "mechanical horse," which, appropriately has a horsehair-stuffed driving seat cushion. This sits on the petrol tank: hardly a safety factor on the road to Great Dunmow in 1997, let alone the road to Berlin in 1945.

The 2.2-litre side-valve engine becomes very quiet as it warms. Driving the Jeep is an interesting experience. Gearchanges call for precise timing, the steering, through a skinny-rimmed wheel, is a fine illustration of the word "vague". A dashboard-mounted plate says top speed is 65mph but I would feel I deserved a medal for achieving it; I settled for a 45-50 mph cruise. Weatherproofing is just a crude folding roof. There are no seatbelts, no windows, no doors; a strap prevents the driver and front passenger falling out.

Leaf springs and Monroe shock absorbers give a surprisingly good ride. Handling is reasonable if the Jeep is not rushed. "Jeeps tend to fall over when really hustled," says Gadeselli encouragingly.

I took the Jeep to Andrewsfield, Essex, site of the first American airbase built in the UK. in 1942. Soon after arriving and quite by chance a 1944 Piper Cub in US markings touched down.

It taxied up to the Jeep. But at that point the Jeep's engine stopped and refused to start again. There was no logic to it, everything was as it should have been. Gadeselli was mystified: "It has never done this before."

Could it have been that the old Jeep, standing on the wartime airfield alongside a wartime aircraft, felt that it had "come home" after more than half a century — that it just wanted to stay?

I make no such mystic claim, but the fact is that when the Piper had flown off, and the sun was going down, and the man from the RAC had checked the engine and found nothing wrong, the Jeep's starter was pressed and the engine sprang to life, as healthy as ever. All very strange.

So we quietly drove away into the sunset, leaving behind any ghosts on the darkening, silent airfield.

OLD AND NEW

Engine: Then: 2.2-litre giving 54bhp. (Now: 2.5-litre, 117bhp, 4-litre, 174bhp.)
Performance: 0-60 eventually. Top speed 65mph. (0-60 in 9.5secs. 109mph.)
Equipment: Rifle fixed to dashboard, canvas bucket, tyre chains, oil can, tow hook, spade, axe. (Hard/soft tops, full carpets, padded radio bar, power steering, remote locking.)
Price: *circa* £7,500 (£13,995 to £18,250).

Family reunion: new Jeeps have familiar lines, but add unheralded comfort levels

NEW JEEP'S TOUGH COMFORTS

The more utilitarian its original purpose the more likely it seems that a vehicle will end up as a "fun car", *writes Alan Copps*. The Volkswagen Beetle, the Citroen 2CV and the dear old Mini spring to mind immediately. But the Jeep must be the ultimate expression of this automotive rule.

The car that once symbolised the fight for freedom has become a fashion wagon *par excellence*. Where the aerial once crackled to a commander's communications the latest Wrangler sports a "sound bar" with four-speaker radio-cassette and CD compatibility. The rigours of open driving have been replaced by air conditioning, an optional hard top and a soft top that offers excellent weather protection.

The latest changes in the Wrangler have seen, by popular demand, the return of traditional round headlights after T-shirts protesting at the square-eyed version began appearing at Jeep jamborees in the U.S. There it commands slavish loyalty and is still often found as a working vehicle. It certainly provided inspiration for that other off-road veteran, the Land Rover.

But its main purpose these days in the hands of the urban young seems to be to outpose the outrageous Suzuki Vitara or the ugly Daihatsu Sportrak. Chrysler has done a clever job in keeping the looks while transforming the innards and shifting the purpose. In terms of "street cred" a Wrangler is difficult to beat: Chrysler has sold 373 of them here so far this year.

The most impressive changes to the 1997 Wrangler are all in the cause of comfort: the coil spring suspension which offers a hugely improved ride and the revamped interior with better seats, easier controls and more storage.

But this is no fashion toy. The hood is said to take ten minutes to put up, one third the time required for previous models, but it will still break your nails and requires a good deal of force to locate some of the fixings. Once in place the "sound bar" is useful, the stereo is powerful enough, and essential to drown the hood drumming at anything over 50mph.

The Command-Trac system allows the driver to shift from two to four-wheel-drive on the move if necessary, although I doubt it is often used. If you do have a yen for the rough stuff, it's certainly not recommended on road tyres.

Your car says a lot about you, you big hunky stud.

Drive a Ferrari? You're sporty and rich. A Rolls Royce? Successful and dignified. The Daihatsu Hijet MPV? Infallible in the sack. Think about it. Why else would a man need a car that carries a family of six? And in some comfort we might add, with two sunroofs, four reclining seats, five doors (two sliding), a frugal 1 litre engine, even a five-speed gearbox, all for just £9,000 on the road. And that includes a three year or 60,000 mileage warranty. (Probably the only precaution you'll ever take.) For more information call 0800 521 700. **THE SIX SEAT HIJET MPV.**

NO-NONSENSE VEHICLES.

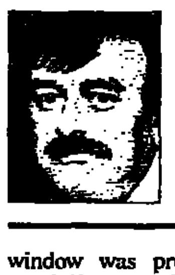
DAIHATSU

PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS INCLUDES VAT, DELIVERY, NUMBER PLATES AND 12 MONTHS' ROAD FUND LICENCE. EACH VEHICLE OF THIS MODEL IS A PASSENGER CONVERSION OF A HIJET REGISTERED AS A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE

Oh dear, something as simple as fitting headlamp stickers for the Continent can become awfully complicated, thanks to the motor industry

Bright idea turns into a nightmare

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

Just about the most infuriating journalists around are those whose columns sometimes start: "While you are reading this I shall be stretched out on a beach in . . ." Absolutely maddening, are they not? I may have my shortcomings but at least this space spares the reader that kind of indulgent nonsense.

It so happens that while you are reading this I shall be kneeling in front of my car at Roscoff, awaiting the ferry back to Britain and trying to peel off those triangular bits of yellow plastic that are called "beam deflectors". Like socks and twins, they come in pairs.

In the good old days of continental travel, by which I mean last year, the business of ensuring that one's headlights did not have approaching French drivers shaking their fists out of the window was pretty straightforward. Years ago I would dutifully buy a kit, which consisted of a roll of yellow transparent plastic, some black material to block the light, and a GB sticker.

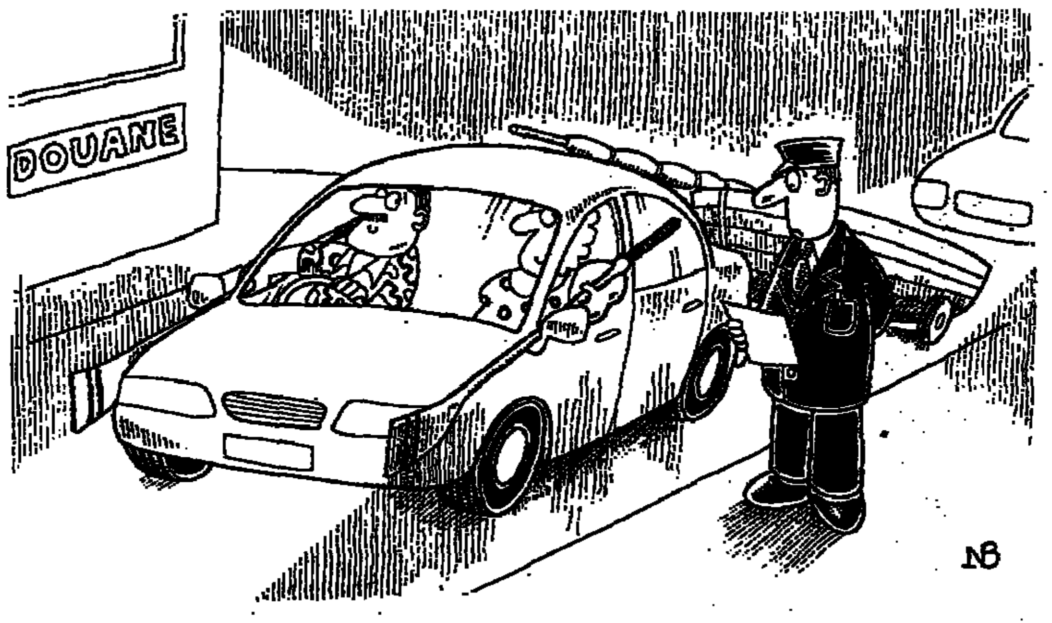
Over the years I became fed up with buying these kits every time I went to France. It took me about two decades to realise that changing the colour of the headlamps to yellow was not obligatory, so all I really needed was some black plastic tape stuck to the headlamp glass in the shape of a triangle.

But I had never liked the fact that black tape over the headlight is like an eye patch: it does not deflect light in a new direction, it simply blocks out some of the light. So this year I indulged myself and bought a pair of beam deflectors, which have the dual effect of changing the light from white to yellow and diverting all of the light output in the correct direction.

I should have known that grief was ahead as soon as I read the packaging, which contains the menacing challenge: "Fitted in seconds." And on the back of the package, it says: "Requires no skill or technical knowledge." These statements are often to be found on flat-pack furniture, the purchase of which has been known to lead to divorce.

My present car is one of the more common makes, so when I came to fit the beam diverters, described as "universal", I was full of confidence. I knew that the headlamp glass would have what is in effect a triangle etched into it and all you have to do is make the diverter roughly correspond to the triangle. Or rather, that is all you have to do on any car but the one that I own.

After a lengthy search, it was obvious that my headlamp glass did not correspond to any headlamp glass I have used in the past. Eventually I took the car to my local garage where the mechanic sighed (as they do) and said that he had seen this problem before. He reckoned that the only way to fit the deflector on my particular car was to put the car on the garage's beam tester, used for MoT tests, and move the deflector about in front of the glass until we found the right spot.



So we did. But of course I did not want the deflectors fitted at that stage so the mechanic marked the glass and the deflector in order that I would know where to fit it. But I was still mystified, so I went to the parts department of the carmaker's main agents.

You feel a fool, right? You can imagine the parts department chap during his lunch break: "Had this bloke in, unbelievable he was, couldn't fit a beam deflector. I said to him, I said, my grandmother, aged 137, she could . . ."

But not a bit of it. I managed to speak half a sentence, which contained the words "beam deflector" and the model of my car, before the assistant put up a hand, reached under his bench and produced a sheet of paper. "You're not the first by a long way," he said. "We had this drawn up specially for that model."

I left with a detailed diagram, feeling grateful that I was not the only one who had been stumped by a simple problem. But I was annoyed that the automobile industry is capable of doing incredibly complicated things with ease yet seems incapable of simplifying the task of driving a car in France.

Clamps set to stop the car-park cowboys

New laws could stop Denver Boot extortionists, says **Tony Dawe**

Moves are gathering pace to outlaw cowboy clampers who have used threats and extortion to claim outrageous sums from thousands of motorists.

Lawyers, MPs and motoring organisations will be writing to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to outline their demands for dealing with companies that specialise in clamping cars parked on private land.

Mr Straw announced earlier this month that he is considering proposals to force the companies to register with local authorities and to set a maximum fine which they can impose.

The plans will delight many of the clampers' victims, including Sharon Le Masson of Lytham, Lancashire, who faced a long legal battle after tangling with a clamping company. Some campaigners, however, are demanding tougher measures.

"The only way to beat the clampers is to ban wheelclamping on private land altogether," says Malcolm Fowler, a solicitor who specialises in clamping cases and speaks on the subject for the Law Society.

"Landowners faced with a problem of illegal parking can protect their property in other ways, by erecting fences or telescopic posts. A system of registration will not deter cowboys, who will continue to operate outside the law."

The AA is also urging the Home Secretary to introduce wide-ranging curbs. "Last year the courts ruled that clamping on private land is legal in England and Wales but there is still no legislation to regulate the way clampers operate," says Bert Morris, AA public policy manager. "Cowboys are free to use threats, intimidation and extortion."

Rogue companies, which operate with a couple of vans, mobile phones and no office, persuade those in charge of businesses that they can keep their forecourts clear if they are given authority to clamp vehicles left on them without permission. They then make extortionate demands from the motorists they trap.

In the worst case reported to the AA, one member clamped on private land at Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, was asked for a £50 "fine", £80 clamp release fee, £80 administration charge plus £30 storage charge: a total of £240.

'In the worst case reported to the AA, a member was charged £240'

The AA believes the release fee should be no greater than £38, the amount charged by the Metropolitan Police, which uses clamping to enforce on-street parking regulations. Mr Straw is thought to favour a £50 limit while the Association of British Parking Enforcement Companies, representing the official wheelclampers, would prefer a £60 fine.

The AA also insists that wheelclamping should only be used where landowners have a genuine parking problem, that prominent warning signs should be displayed and that clamping contractors should wear uniforms and carry written authorisation from the landowner.

Mrs Le Masson faced demands for a £50 fee, which she did not have on her, and was then asked for her leather jacket or gold rings after leaving her Volkswagen Golf in a private car park for five minutes to pay a gas bill. When she refused, the clampers called a tow truck and warned she would be charged £80 for the call-out, plus £80 a day storage and the original fine.

She jumped into the car and refused to move until the clampers left. She returned after hiring her own tow truck with a winch and crane to lift the car and transport it to her home. At 1am, she used a hired angle grinder to saw off the two heavy duty clamps.

Mrs Le Masson was then arrested and waited for nine months to learn that she would not be prosecuted but still faced the threat of a private action from the clamping company.

She says, "I wanted to encourage others to stand up to the clampers and I am looking forward to new laws that will give motorists more protection."

Other recent victims have included Jill Crowther, a diabetic who faced a £95 release fee after stopping to buy urgent medication, and Edna Holmes, aged 73, who was clamped while delivering meals-on-wheels.

Sharon Le Masson was arrested after sawing off the clamps on her car rather than pay the fines demanded

NEWS IN BRIEF

Alfa's up, Ford Ka is down

■ THERE was a time when it seemed Alfa's days were numbered in Britain. Sister company Lancia packed off back to Italy as sales plunged, and Alfa Romeo seemed destined to follow. But a revamped range has transformed the company's fortunes. Now it is taking on new dealers and wants to expand from 84 showrooms to 95 by winter, with its new mid-range 156 sports model due next year.

■ MEANWHILE, Ford is disappointed with sales of its little Ka minicar. Applauded by the pundits and winning awards around Europe for its styling, Ka is taking longer to convince the public, and Ford is holding back production at its factory at Valencia in Spain. The company now expects to make around 200,000 a year, 40,000 fewer than predicted.

Declining sales generally in the French car market have not helped Ford, though *Automotive News*, the American trade newspaper, reports that Germans either love or loathe the Ka, with sales running about 10 per cent lower than the firm's expectations.

■ AN IMPORTANT health warning to women readers: while we, on this deeply politically incorrect publication, approve of stockings, we cannot accept responsibility for women drivers who are penalised for wearing such garments with an electrical shock. The AA tells us that nylon used in stockings is among the synthetic materials which can trigger a static shock in the car. Its experts recommend wearing natural fibres: woolly tights — not on *CAR 97*, thank you.

Give car safety a brake

■ IT'S TIME to stop boasting about 0 to 60mph acceleration and start telling drivers how to get from 60mph to 0.

The Institute of Advanced Motorists warns that drivers feel so secure in their near noiseless, protected "bubbles", they forget how fast they are driving. Publishing stopping figures, and advising that even cars with anti-lock brakes need operating by drivers who have to concentrate fully, would ensure that motorists have a better chance of surviving,' says the Institute.

■ CARS BELONGING to Mel Blanc, the Warner Brothers' cartoon voice of Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck, among others, are at the famous annual Pebble Beach auction in California on August 17 run by Christie's. Blanc owned a series of Ferraris, including a 1972 365 GTS/4 used by Barbra Streisand in her hit film, *A Star is Born*.

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

A2 New Cross. Restrictions on Old Kent Road at various times during the day near to Asylum Road.

A306 Hammersmith Bridge. Closed both ways to general traffic.

A406 Angel Edmonton. Major works at the A1010 Fore Street.

A2043 Cheam. Single alternate-lane traffic on Malden Road between Fromondes Road and Chatsworth Road.

A24 Morden. Epsom Road down to one lane southbound.

A1209 Bethnal Green Road. Long-term roadworks between Vallance Road and Cambridge Heath Road.

A312 Faggs Road, Feltham. Carriageway reduced to one lane each way due to long term bridge maintenance at Faggs Bridge, north of Staines Road, between 6am and 5pm.

● **SOUTH-EAST**

A4 Padworth, Berkshire. Temporary lights at junction with A340.

M40 Buckinghamshire. Long-term roadworks with a contraflow between junctions 1a (M25) and 3 (Wycombe East).

A3 Hampshire. Longmoor Junction, Greatham. Carriageway reduced to one lane northbound between Ham Barn Roundabout and Longmoor, southbound between Griggs Green and Longmoor.

A41 Watford. Eastbound lane closure on North Western Avenue from Hunton Bridge roundabout to Leavesdon Green Interchange.

M2 Rochester, Kent. Roadworks with various lane closures.

M40 Oxfordshire. Resurfacing work between Watlington and Oxford. Drivers heading to junction 8 of the M40 from Oxford are advised to use the A40 and A418.

M25 Surrey. Restrictions and lane closures both ways between Reigate and A3.

● **SOUTH-WEST**

A38 Old Bedminster Bridge, Bedminster. Major roadworks with lane closures on Bedminster roundabout.

M5 Bristol. Contraflow across Avonmouth Bridge with 50mph limit.

A30 Camborne bypass, Cornwall. Lane closure westbound during drainage work.

A30 Sowton, Exeter, Devon. One lane closed towards Honiton. Roadworks between the Business Park and M5 overbridge.

A417 Maisemore Bridge, Gloucestershire. Temporary lights during bridge work.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

A1 between Alconbury Hill and Alwalton, Cambridgeshire. Construction work with lane closures, contraflow and 50mph limit.

A52 Beeston, Nottinghamshire. Major roadworks on Derby Road. Expect delays between Sherwin Arms and Priory roundabouts.

M54 Shropshire. Contraflow with westbound traffic on the shoulder. Eastbound on to lanes 1 and 2 of westbound carriageway.

A50 Stoke on Trent: major roadworks in the Meir area at junction with A520.

M6 junction 6 Birmingham. Long-term roadworks. Northbound entry slip to M6 closed at Salford Circus. Diversions in place.

● **NORTH**

A38 South Normanton, Derbyshire. Major Roadworks.

A580 East Lancs Road, Lowton, Greater Manchester. Reduced to one lane westbound near Church Lane.

M65 between Blackburn and Accrington. Contraflow with westbound entry slip road at junction 7 down to a single lane.

M53 Birkenhead. Carriageway reduced to one lane both ways on Moreton spur. 50mph limit.

A19 between Thornaby-on-Tees and Billingham, Cleveland. Major roadworks with two lanes each way and 50mph limit.

M1 West Yorkshire, junctions 43 to 42 Stourton to Lofthouse junction. Contraflow and 50mph speed limit.

● **WALES**

A484 Carmarthenshire. Major roadworks on Francis Well in Tenerdy.

A470 Conwy. Temporary lights at Dolwyddelan for improvement work at Bod Unig.

A449 Monmouthsire. Long delays between Usk junction and the M4 junction 24 at Newport with major roadworks in place.

A483 Powys. Temporary lights on Park Road, Builth Wells.

A472 Torfaen. Contraflow at Pontypool.

A485 Camaerthenshire. Temporary lights at Duar Ville, Llanybyther.

● **SCOTLAND**

Aberdeen Anderson Drive, one lane each way between Seafield Road roundabout and Queens Road.

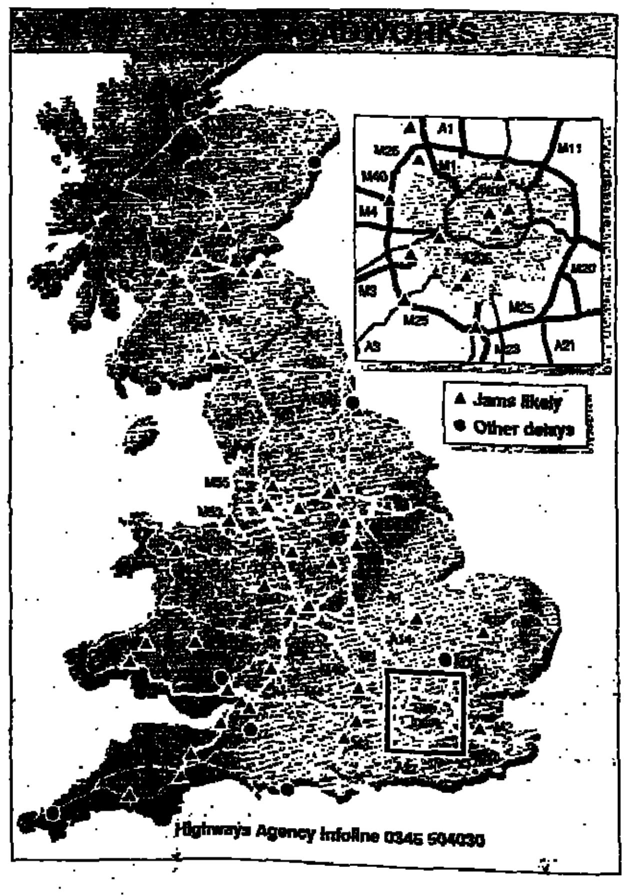
A74 Dumfries and Galloway. Lane closures between Greenhillstairs and Gretna.

M9 Edinburgh. Long-term roadworks and restrictions on Newbridge roundabout.

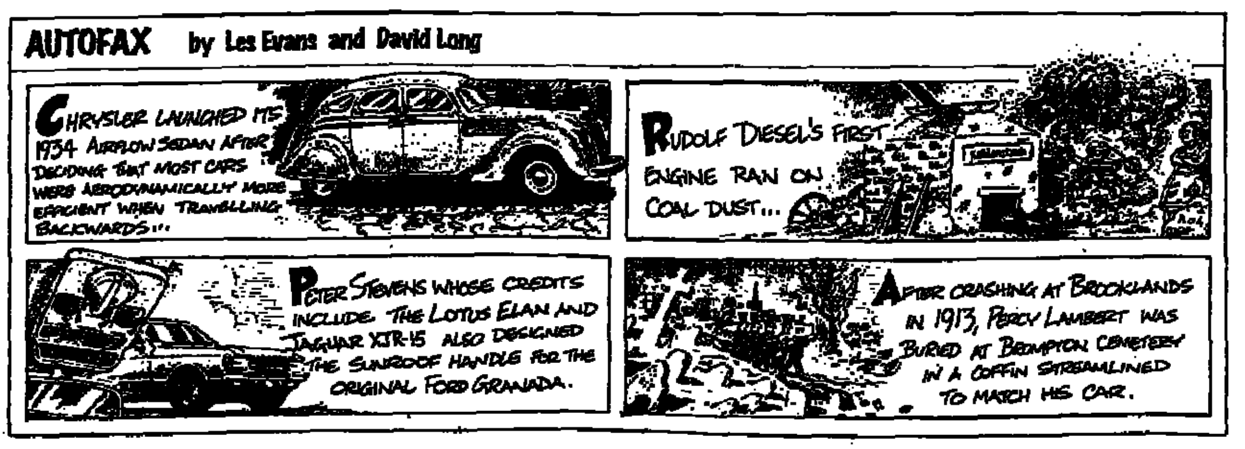
M8 Glasgow. Narrow lanes and speed restrictions each way at Cardonald interchange.

M90 Friarton Bridge, Perth and Kinross. Contraflow.

M9 between Keir roundabout and Craigforth, Stirling. Contraflow.



AUTOFAX by **Les Evans and David Long**


CHRYSLER LAUNCHED ITS 1934 AIRFLOW SEDAN AFTER DECIDING THAT MOST CARS WERE AERODYNAMICALLY MORE EFFICIENT WHEN TRAVELLING BACKWARDS...
RUDOLF DIESEL'S FIRST ENGINE RAN ON COAL DUST...
PETER STEVENS WHOSE CREDITS INCLUDE THE LOTUS ELAN AND JAGUAR XJR-15 ALSO DESIGNED THE SUNROOF HANDLE FOR THE ORIGINAL FORD GRANADA.
AFTER CRASHING AT BROOKLANDS IN 1913, PERCY LAMBERT WAS BURIED AT BROMPTON CEMETERY IN A COFFIN STREAMLINED TO MATCH HIS CAR.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Morag Preston expected a hell of a drive with rally champ Juha Kankkunen. But Lady Luck intervened

Falling flat with the flying Finn

IAN DUNCAN/NORTH NEWS

Sadly, pootling down a dirt track at 40mph with a sullen champion at the wheel of a Ford Galaxy is nothing like thundering along in a Ford Escort Rally car

I had been promised a "ride of a lifetime". Ford had invited me to Cumbria for a "bone-rattling spin" seated alongside the most successful rally driver in the history of the sport. On a flying visit from Finland to test the Ford Escort World Rally Car, Juha Kankkunen had agreed to take me for a drive.

This is the hero who has won four world championships. He has 21 world rally victories to his credit, and a certain fondness for the accelerator. Having entered the championship halfway through this year to replace German Armin Schwarz, Kankkunen has had a mixed season so far.

With Juha Repo in the co-driver's seat, he was forced to retire from the Argentinian Rally with suspension problems, but then came second in the Acropolis Rally. With the New Zealand Rally starting at the end of this week, Kankkunen (whose name in Finnish means hangover) had been flown to Cockermouth for two days' intensive testing. For the first time he will be driving with a new £32,000 gearbox and an electronic dashboard.

Whisked to Lowther Forest to catch the 38-year-old Finn in action, I was disturbed by the silence. The £250,000 car, which can go from 0-60mph in three seconds, was perched on stilts under a blue tarpaulin.

It was being picked over by mechanics from every angle. A head gasket had blown, and Kankkunen had sought refuge in a shabby trailer nearby. He had come to Cumbria expecting to cover at least 200 miles a day, starting at 9am. And here he was, the flying Finn, nursing a cup of instant coffee. This is the reality of rally driving: the dull routine behind the glamour and adrenalin.

Only the day before, Kankkunen had been tearing along the test track at speeds of up to 140mph, when bits of suspension started to drop off and the car's electronic dashboard had gone blank.

"Ja, it happens," says Kankkunen. With a reputation as one of the more laid-back rally drivers, the highly prized all-rounder keeps cool. Now is when you want things to go wrong, he adds, not in the middle of a rally.

The son of a former Finnish rally champion, he learnt to drive on a tractor on his family's farm. He also tried motor racing but was not impressed: "Going out there, you see the same thing, round and round again. In rallying, you see different things as you go by. It gives a living for my family and I just love it."

The millionaire made his rally debut in 1978 in a Ford Escort RS2000. His breakthrough came in 1983 when he finished sixth on Finland's 1,000 Lakes Rally. Less than two years later, he won his first world rally on perhaps the toughest of them all, the Kenya Safari. In 1986, he took his first world title.

After just three outings in 1996, Kankkunen has returned to the World Championship with Ford, along with his flamboyant former team-mate Carloz Sainz. But while Sainz mixes in Spanish Royal circles, Kankkunen lives in a cottage in Finland with his wife Pirjo, a three-times champion tractor-puller.

At home, Kankkunen likes to cook, work on the farm, and drive one of his cars (a 1918 Model T Ford, 1928 Model A Ford, four old rally cars, and two old Lotus Cortinas that belonged to his father).

This has been a busy year for his mechanics. Malcolm Wilson Motorsport was only awarded the contract to run Team Ford Repsol's campaign two months before the Monte Carlo Rally. Run by the former rally driver Malcolm Wilson, MWM has hardly had a pitstop since.

Says Wilson of the supension and the malfunctioning electronic dashboard, "You are bound to get these problems in the early stages. These sorts of things are part and parcel of the sport."

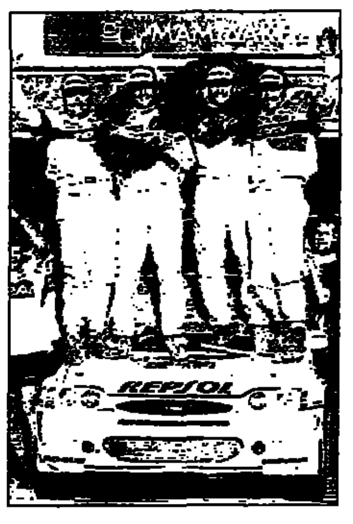
So, I must have come at a bad time then. A call goes out that the car needs to go back to MWM's garage nearby. The mechanics leap into action, and everything is packed away before I even get to perch on the passenger seat.

Downhearted at having missed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, I ask if there is another car in which the blond-haired bullet can take me for a spin.

Imagine the horror when a Ford Galaxy bowls up with a sullen-faced Kankkunen at the wheel. We drive down a dirt track. My now monosyllabic driver starts to tell me about the traction, but we both know that 40mph in a family car is just not the same.

We head back to the garage and Kankkunen disappears on to the golf course. Speaking to Ford the following day, I hear the inevitable news: "Yes, today's testing went well, and we're all set to go."

RALLY LIFE

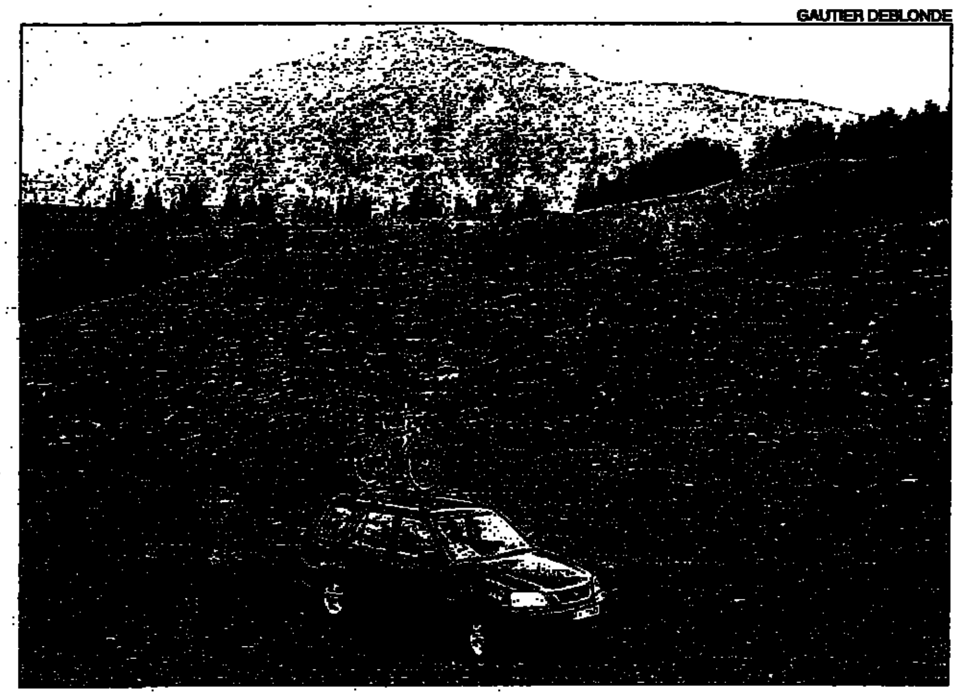


Date of Birth: April 2, 1959
Lives: Laukaa, Finland
Marital Status: Married, one son
First rally: 1978
First World Rally: 1979 Finland's 1,000 Lakes.
Breakthrough: 1983 Finland's 1,000 Lakes. Finished sixth
Number of World Rallies: 108
World Rally wins: 21
World Champion: 1986, 1987, 1991, 1993
Favourite Old Car: Buggatti
Favourite Racing Car: Imsa Porsche
Favourite Rally Car: 205 T16 Peugeot
Favourite Formula One Car: Ferrari
On explaining his sport to an alien: I get paid to drive a car faster than it is meant to go over bad roads
What else he could have done for a living: Farmer
Motto: Never give up

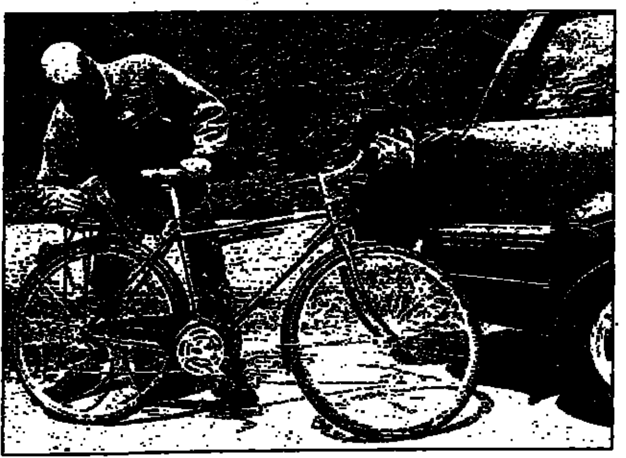
Good, clean fun: guaranteed

Honda's new automatic off-roader even has a shower unit, **Eve-Ann Prentice** says

GAUTIER DEBLONDE



CR-V features an automatic bike hoist, though operating the equipment is exercise enough



Optional shower unit means goodbye to muddy tyres

Honda's latest car had a damp start in life this week. It was more a case of taking the driving rain than the driving reins when Honda unveiled a four-wheel-drive vehicle with a difference in the sodden Austrian Alps.

For the CR-V — Compact Recreational Vehicle — is a car that knows its own mind; it senses when the going gets rough and automatically shifts from two to four-wheel drive.

An automatic-transmission version was launched in Europe last month, and this week Honda had intended to show off its new manual stablemate on a glacier in the Tyrol. But the downpour fell as snow on the Alpine peaks, and the glacier drive was abandoned.

The only thing that seemed fit to be launched amid the deluge, which devastated parts of central and eastern Europe, was a boat.

Paradoxically, the sun broke through for the first time in days as we set out in a convoy of CR-Vs for a drive through the mountains round Bad Ischl, south west of Salzburg.

This is the spectacular mountain scenery that formed the backdrop to *The Sound of Music*, and it was an apt setting for the new Honda. With visions of Julie Andrews leaping over the nearest hummock, I found myself pondering the CR-V's finishing touches such as a picnic table and an optional shower-unit for cleaning mud-spattered wellies or keeping sand-dusted feet fresh. Julie Andrews and the CR-V have one key thing in common — both promise good, clean fun.

The CR-V can also be fitted with an automatic bicycle hoist for those who want to advertise their real or imagined healthy lifestyle with a mountain bike sprung aloft. Though to watch those who tried to use it, more energy may be expended on manipulating this device than in pedal-pushing.

But the car's main aim in life is to combine all the comfort of a saloon with the dexterity of a four-wheel-drive, with the big bonus of shifting to off-road conditions automatically.

Since there was no opportunity to test its off-road capabilities, I can only say that it took to the ups and downs of Tyrolean roads like a good 'un. Power steering, loads of leg room, double wishbone suspension and an extremely comfortable driving seat make it a relaxing car to drive. A quiet 2-litre engine and excellent road-holding also make it reassuringly stable.

The CR-V, which is expected to go on sale in Britain in November or December this year, also has a flat, uncluttered floor and is low enough to enable you to enter and exit without having to clamber aboard.

Nonetheless, the vehicle has good ground clearance and a tight turning circle, courtesy of large inner wheel arches.

But what Honda is proudest of is the CR-V's ability to switch from two to four-wheel drive without the driver needing to twiddle knobs or levers. It does this via a hydraulic torque-split system which sends power to the rear wheels only when it senses that the front wheels have begun to lose traction.

The car is notably quiet, though whether this will be an attraction to the sporty 25 to 45-year-olds it is aimed at may be questionable — some folk do seem to love the sound of their own engines.

The CR-V automatic is priced at £16,995, up to £17,995 with extras such as alloy wheels, air conditioning, the shower unit and CD upgrade. The manual version is expected to go on sale for the same amount, or even a touch less.

HONDA CR-V

Engine: 2-litre, powering two-wheel drive that switches to 4x4 when conditions dictate.
Performance: 0-62mph, 12.5 secs (auto), 10.5 secs (man).
Economy: Combined 27.7mpg (auto), 28.3mpg (man).
Equipment: Picnic table, sunroof, shower, and cycle hoist.
Price: £16,995 to £17,995.

A TIMES NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION

Play Fantasy Formula One

Prizes worth £40,000

IN ASSOCIATION WITH Marlboro

Tomorrow's German Grand Prix is the 10th race in our £40,000 Fantasy Formula One competition. Heading our leaderboard after the British GP is L Ackland from Guildford. His team, Aston O, has 6,765 points after scoring a total of 846 points, which included 200 bonus points, at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

TO ENTER If you have not yet entered a team into our £40,000 competition use the panel, below right, to make three selections from each of the four groups and call 0891 405 001 (+44 990 100 311 outside the UK).

THE PRIZES The manager with the best team score after the European Grand Prix on October 26, will win the first prize of £25,000 courtesy of our sponsor Marlboro World Championship team. Prizes of £10,000 and £5,000 will go to two runners-up. The manager with the most points in the German Grand Prix will win a trip for two to the Belgian Grand Prix courtesy of BAC Sport. The prize includes return travel on Eurostar and a three-night stay in Liege. The runner-up gets a Sony PlayStation and Formula One game.

TRANSFERS You can change up to four selections before the Hungarian Grand Prix by calling 0891 555 994 (+44 990 100 394 ex UK) before noon Thursday, August 7. Your new team must have three selections from each of groups A, B, C and D. The first three drivers you select will be your prediction for the Belgian GP bonus points.

CHECK YOUR SCORE Check your score and position after the German Grand Prix on 0891 884 648 (+44 990 100 348 ex UK) with your 10-digit PIN number. Lines will open on Wednesday.

OUR LEADERBOARD AFTER THE BRITISH GRAND PRIX

POS	TEAM NAME	MANAGER NAME	POINTS
1	Aston O	L Ackland	6765
2	Coolsport	D Coolican	6611
3	Dragon Racing	R Davis	6608
4	Gwilt F1	D Gwilt	6596
5	Formula Uno	P Tabone	6520
6	The Tigglers	"Mr R"	6514
6	Scuderia Vincitore	S Lorenti	6514
6	Cathy's Clowns	Mrs C Robinson	6514
6	Bezzotti Racing	A Scott	6514
6	F1 Erb	S Erhorn	6514
11	Laura's Rob	J Smith	6508
12	Sour Mash	R Owers	6497
13	Will And Nerve	A Mewes	6493
13	Cartell Racing	S Dimetto	6493
15	Smith-Astra	D Smith	6491
16	Parkhurst Racing	L Danson	6462
17	Team Julius II	C Gale	6454
18	Midnight Ravers	C Newman	6446
18	Cyclops	R Bohee	6446
18	Goldfinch	S Goldfinch	6446
18	Freaks	F Retkowsky	6446
22	Becks Racing Team	M Kingdon	6440
22	What Alesi Bunch!	N Rowe	6440
24	Waite Racing F1	P Waite	6437
25	Chris-Williams	C Quagliero	6417

MAKE 3 SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THESE FOUR GROUPS

The first column of figures in light type after the names shows the Fantasy Formula One British GP race scores, the second column the total competition points so far

DRIVERS GROUP A					
01 D Hill	120	499	07 M Hakkinen	66	736
02 M Schumacher	61	1073	08 D Coulthard	116	788
03 J Villeneuve	149	888	09 R Barrichello	27	448
04 E Irvine	54	858	10 H-H Frentzen	5	835
05 J Alesi	152	997	11 J Herbert	50	740
06 G Berger	0	653	12 M Salo	44	738
DRIVERS GROUP B					
13 J Trulli*	113	998	19 G Fisichella	111	869
14 J Verstappen	43	608	20 S Nakano	92	577
15 U Katayama	-1	514	21 N Fontana*	122	826
16 P Diniz	30	470	22 T Marques*	119	609
17 R Rosset	0	0	23 J Magnussen	52	481
18 R Schumacher	110	563	24 V Sospiri	0	0
CONSTRUCTORS GROUP C			**CONSTRUCTORS GROUP D**		
25 Williams	10	127	31 Arrows	11	-58
26 Ferrari	-20	160	32 Sauber	8	90
27 McLaren	13	100	33 Tyrrell	-20	-11
28 Benetton	25	155	34 Minardi	7	39
29 Jordan	22	82	35 Stewart	-20	-79
30 Prost	9	90	36 Lola	0	0

*Rule 2 applies. Jarno Trulli of Minardi replaces Olivier Panis in the Prost team. Tarso Marques replaces Trulli at Minardi and at Sauber Norberto Fontana replaces Gianni Morbidelli, who originally replaced Nicola Larini.

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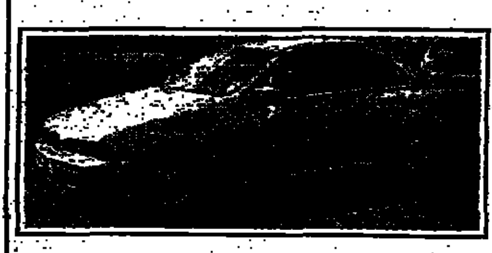

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MART SPECIAL: GUIDE TO WHAT'S NEW ON THE R-REGISTRATION FORECOURTS

First check the finance deals on wheels

The right package could save you hundreds, says **Rupert Saunders**

New-car buyers heading for the showrooms this August are likely to be more confused by the finance available than the array of cars on display.

Industry research shows that most private buyers will spend several weeks shopping around for the right car and then take the first finance package on offer.

It need not be like this. A little bit of research and a few minutes' haggling over finance rates could save you several hundred pounds.

Despite all the fancy names, there are still only four basic methods of acquiring the use of a car. If you like traditional methods, you can buy one with cash (either your own money or cash borrowed from a bank or building society) or you can buy one over time with a hire-purchase scheme.

If you take a more flexible view of loans, you can take out a deferred payment contract plan (see explanation of PCPs, right panel) or you can arrange a long-term rental agreement, called a lease plan.

Whichever finance method you choose, make sure you know a good interest rate when you see it. The best unsecured loan rates at the moment are around 12.7 per cent to 14.8 per cent APR (annualised percentage rate), depending on how much you borrow.

Unsecured rates should be fixed over the loan period. Beware of dealers who quote a "flat rate" at you. The APR is a true measure of what you will actually be paying and is roughly twice the flat rate. By law, they must give you a written APR quote.

The best rates for new cars on hire purchase or PCP are nearly always available from franchised car dealers. The motor manufacturers often subsidise these rates in order to shift their stock. There are also good deals from cars-by-phone companies, such as Swan National's CarChoice.

The best deals available through August include most Renault models, at 7.3 per cent to 9.9 per cent, and most Fiat models, at 3.8 per cent to 8 per cent. There are low cost PCP rates in the 9 per cent to 12 per cent range from Ford, Rover and Nissan.

Citroën and Vauxhall have taken a slightly different route, by offering cash back against deposit payments. Look for offers between £500 and £1,000 depending on the model. For real style, what about a Jaguar XJ6 on PCP at 9.9 per cent APR?

Used car finance from dealers tends to cost more (around 18 per cent) and you will probably save money by borrowing from banks or building societies.

The Alliance & Leicester has just launched a car loan scheme, called Car Purchase Plan, which looks good for used cars. Structured like a PCP, it makes an allowance for the value of the car at the end of the term and offers lower monthly payments accordingly.

The Alliance & Leicester claims that the loan means buyers are not locked into buying cars from one manufacturer or dealer, but in truth, competition between car dealers is so fierce that getting one to buy you out of a rival's loan deal is not a problem.

The real advantage of the Alliance's Car Purchase Plan is its low rates, which start at 12.7 per cent and match those of an unsecured loan.

Pre-budget scare stories about government plans to tax company car drivers more heavily may be enough to make you think seriously about taking the offer of a cash alternative from your employer. Doing the costings is a complex calculation but personal leasing, where a finance company handles all the running costs, is almost certainly the best bet.

Ford has a scheme called Acumen, while most contract-hire companies, including Lex Vehicle Leasing and Swan National, have divisions which can offer specialist advice.

Even in August, car dealers are in a highly competitive business. Let the salesman know that you are prepared to shop around. If he can't match the sort of interest rates quoted here, go and buy your car somewhere else.

Useful numbers:
Swan National
CarChoice: 0500 686 970
Alliance & Leicester:
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Ford (free booklet):
0345 346 347

Every major carmaker has a personal contract purchase scheme, such as Ford's Options: Emma Pearce was its 250,000th customer

WHAT IS PC PLAN?

Balancing act for your car repayments

■ PERSONAL Contract Purchase schemes (PCPs) are best known by their trade names, such as Ford Options, Vauxhall Choices or Rover Select. Every major car manufacturer and most independent finance companies have now introduced one.

■ PCPS WERE developed from similar schemes that have operated for several years in the fleet-car market. In effect, they are used to reduce the cost of the monthly repayments because they assume that you are going to resell your car after two or three years. They take into account the future resale value of the car when structuring the loan.

■ WITH A PCP you defer part of the repayment for the car until the end of the finance agreement. If the deal has been structured correctly, when that time comes, you can trade the car in and use the money raised to make the final repayment, plus start a new finance plan.

■ THIS SYSTEM of "rolling debt" works only if the deferred final payment owing is less than the value of the car. Hence the payment is often referred to as a Minimum Final Value (MFV). Getting a PCP to work for you is a balancing act.

■ GO FOR a low final payment, and you will pay more each month but have more money available to buy your next car at the end. Go for a high final payment if you want lower monthly outgoings, but watch out when it comes to funding your next car.

■ SINCE FORD launched the PCP concept with Options in 1992, this form of car funding has grown increasingly popular. Emma Pearce was the 250,000th Options customer, recently trading in her Ford Fiesta for a Ka.

Make a clean getaway by sprucing your car for part-exchange

FORECOURT

■ CAR BUYERS seeking a good deal can help themselves best not by scouring the car ads pages or haggling like a demon with the car salesman, but by sprucing up the car they are about to part exchange.

While sellers make sure their houses are at their tidiest when visited by prospective buyers, few drivers take similar steps to maximise the value of their car, *writes Vaughan Freeman.*

Following a few simple rules can make a huge difference in how much it will cost you to change from your old car to its replacement, reports *CAP Black Book.*

Private motorists all too often believe that dealers are hard-nosed professionals who can see past dirt, scratched paint and torn seats and instantly see what a car is truly worth.

But CAP operations director Andrew Wilkinson says dealers need to sell on the cars they take as part-exchanges as quickly as possible to raise cash to buy fresh stock. Any part-exchange a dealer takes that is dirty or unprepared has to have time and money spent on tidying before it can go to auction with any chance of attracting bids.

Wilkinson says: "If all goes well and the forecasts are correct, then August should see dealers selling near-record numbers of R-registered new cars, and struggling to stay afloat amid a sea of used part-exchanges.

"Tens of thousands of the cars they will take as part exchange will be the sorts of vehicles main agents will not be able to sell off their forecourts. Yet they have to be disposed of somehow, usually at auction."

You can also boost part-exchange values by bringing along a sheaf of documentation that includes the V55 registration document, current MoT certificates and, especially if the car is an executive saloon, a full service history.

Also, says Wilkinson, be realistic. You might have proposed to your wife in the rusting, worn-out saloon sitting on your drive, but that sentimental value does little to raise its value in the eyes of a buyer. Wilkinson says: "There is no point day-dreaming and wasting everybody's time, including your own, by describing the car as 'immaculate' if it is abundantly clear to everybody that it simply is not.

"Motorists who offer their cars with an honest description, and with the appropriate paperwork clearly presented, will be the first to get their money and be able to invest it in a new car."

Sensible Move from Daihatsu

Daihatsu's new three-cylinder Cuore is a rattling good alternative, reports **Ian Morton**

ROADTEST

The future looks small and cheap: at £6,500, the Cuore will become the least expensive Japanese car in Britain

■ THERE IS one very good way to cover possible public resistance to unusual styling — make your quirky car also available with a more conventional appearance.

That is what Daihatsu is doing. You find the just-launched Daihatsu Move a funny little thing too singular to contemplate? The Cuore, which has joined it in the firm's line-up, is 65 per cent the same car, including chassis and engine, but it looks less like a kiddycar with attitude and will be cheaper.

If you're thinking of buying at the lower end of the price spectrum now that R-registration day is upon us, it is one of a whole range of newcomers from the Japanese maker.

At £6,500, the three-door Cuore will become the least expensive Japanese car in Britain. The five-door with extra kit, called the Cuore+, will cost £7,200, the same price as the Move.

Within a couple of months, two further keenly priced Daihatsu models will arrive, for this is war.

We may expect a good dozen new small contenders by the turn of the millennium, when the UK market for cheap and compact cars — currently around 15,000 — is likely to have grown to around 100,000 a year. Daihatsu intends 30,000 of them to carry its Flying D badge.

Is this a lot of noise from an upstart tiddler of a manufacturer? No tiddler, this. The fact is that Daihatsu already makes 800,000 cars a year, is Japan's sixth biggest carmaker, and being one-third owned by Toyota, it is effectively Toyota's small-car division. If you think Move and Cuore are intended to be mere marketing curiosities, think again.

And if the average British car buyer has yet to make the culture hop from four cylinders to three, that process is deemed to be already under way — Europe's first new tri-pot production engine for decades is available from this summer, powering the Vauxhall Corsa.

■ THE CUORE readily admits its mechanical character. That soaring whine of cogs and wheezy exhaust bellow as the revs trudge towards 6,500 could emanate only from an engine one tube short of a fourpack. But 847cc and 42bhp are sufficient to reach 60mph in about 15 seconds, and an eventual 85mph.

The little unit hauls happily in fifth from 1,500rpm, about 17mph, and scuds along at 70mph for 3,100rpm to help return an out-of-town fuel figure of 64.2mpg.

In confident hands, a good cross-country pace can be maintained, since the wheels stay rooted to the Tarmac through the dry bends, and the car skates merrily through the wet ones in the manner of all good small front-wheel-drive models.

But noise and movement are never absent. While the engine settles down to a soporific drone on the motorway, the bustle of airflow and the busyness that the suspension makes of each and every bump conspire to keep the drive lively.

Add a measure of body shrug and bounce and the susceptibility of sections of panel and bits of trim to sizzle in brief sympathy with engine resonance, and there is something going on all the time. It is typical of lightly constructed cars, though not of all small vehicles — the modern Mini feels like a little tank compared with this newcomer.

There again, the Mini (nearly £2,500 more than the three-door Cuore) does not begin to compete on ergonomics or space. Access to the Daihatsu interior is easy, the style is curvy, the control area layout is small-scale but modern, and while elbows may rub, two adults enjoy plainly generous leg and headroom, and the fold-down rear seats and back area add up to real luggage space.

So the Cuore achieves quite a lot within its 10ft 10in, which is 10in longer than the Mini. Daihatsu executives dismiss the Mini as "a fashion item," by the way. For all its compact virtues, no one is likely to grant the conventionally styled Cuore that status. The idiosyncratic Move might just attract it, though. Daihatsu can win in the end.

DAIHATSU CUORE

Engine: 847cc, 42bhp three-cylinder.
Transmission: five-speed manual.
Performance: 0-60mph, 15 secs; max 85mph.
Economy: urban 41.5mpg, extra-urban 64.2mpg.
Equipment: driver's airbag, engine immobiliser, *headlamp levelling, heated rear screen with wash/wipe,* rev counter. **Price:** Cuore £6,500 (Cuore+ £7,200).

SPARE PARTS

IT'S NOT all good news when the registration letter changes on August 1. It means that three-year-old cars, those with an M registration, have to face their fearful first MoT tests, *reports Alan Copps.*

"The MoT test is probably the most feared garage visit of the motorist's calendar. But in fact it is the only time each year when the motorist can benefit from a thorough, good value for money examination that ensures that their vehicle is in a safe and environmentally acceptable condition," says Hugh Roberts of the Retail Motor Industry Federation.

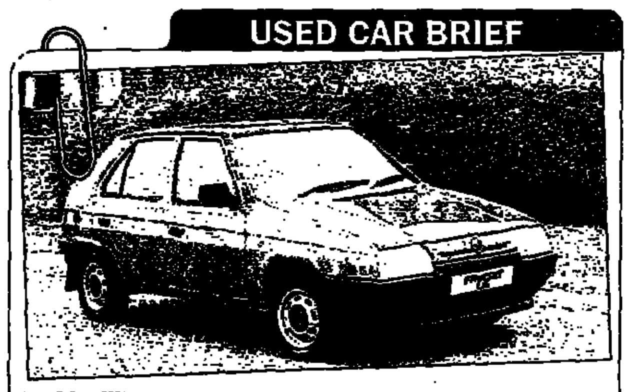
"Checking your vehicle should not be limited to one day a year but the test continues to play a vital role in reducing pollution levels and keeping our roads safe," Roberts adds.

The MoT includes checks on brakes, lights, steering, bodywork, tyres, seat belts, windscreen, the structural security and fitting of vital components and on a car's exhaust emissions.

PERHAPS R lends itself to more wordplay than most letters, or perhaps it's just another effect of all those building society windfalls. But sales of select personalised registrations with an R prefix are going through the roof, in the words of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency. In the first 15 days of sales they raised £6 million, bringing the total revenue since the select scheme was launched in 1989 to more than £250 million. Sales of R marks are 73 per cent higher than last year's P plates.

Prices for the R plate of your choice start at £399, although the most sought-after are held back for auction. Further information from 01792 773366.

USED CAR BRIEF



SKODA FAVORIT
The rear-engined rear-wheel drive Skoda Estelle was replaced in 1989 by the front-wheel drive, front-engined Favorit which first sold as a five-door hatchback. The five-door estate followed three years later. Powered by Skoda's rally-proven 1.3-litre 62bhp petrol engine, the Favorit began the manufacturer's lengthy campaign-it is now part of the Volkswagen group-to kill the jokes and reshape the blighted Skoda image.

GOOD NEWS: Simple construction, straight-forward design and robust mechanics, plus a comparative lack of technological sophistication, make the Favorit one of the few modern cars that is still suitable for the do-it-yourself owner who enjoys under-bonnet tinkering.

BAD NEWS: Gadgets taken for granted on rival cars, such as central locking and electric windows do not feature on the Favorit. Inconsistent build quality on pre-1990 models improved later. Engines are noisy but do the job. Imprecise ride gets better the more people and luggage carried.

LOOK FOR: From 1993 the fitting of a catalytic converter robbed the 62bhp Favorit of power, so seek out the 67bhp "E" engine. Available from early 1994, it later became standard and comes with an immobiliser. Go for LS models for comforts like radio/cassette and split/fold rear seats, and alloy wheels.

AVOID: The Favorit is a budget car, driven by budget-conscious motorists, but there is a fine line between economy and skimping. Check that the car has been properly serviced and that maintenance has not been skipped. Beware excessive brake and clutch judder, and make sure that the heater, and gas struts holding up estate tailgate, all work.

SAFETY: The Favorit is rated average by the Department of Transport for safety, alongside the Proton, Lancia Delta and Seat Ibiza ahead of the 1980s Rover 200 but behind the early 1990s Escort and Astra.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (Tel 0800 444777) on a 1993 Skoda Favorit 1.3 LS costs a 55-year-old professional, male or female, living in Winchester, with full no claims bonus, £130 a year fully comprehensive. A 22-year-old male, living in south London, with one year's no claims pays £576 and a similar female pays £500.

REPLACEMENT PARTS (prices including VAT from Glassmatix 01932 823823): Clutch assembly £98; full exhaust £187; catalytic converter £381; rear shock absorber £58; set of front brakepads (axle set) £27; alternator £100; radiator £108; starter motor £90.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay £1,500 for a 1991 H-reg 1.3-litre Forum five-door estate; £2,300 for a 1992 J-reg 136 Favorit LS five-door hatch; £3,100 for a 1993 K-reg Favorit 136 LS five-door estate; £5,600 for a 1994 L-reg Favorit LXi five-door hatch, £4,500 for a 1994 L-reg 1.3 GLXi five-door estate and £5,600 for a 1995 M-reg 1.3 GLXi E five-door estate.

OVERALL: Headroom inside is good, as is passenger space generally. Controls are light, the 1.3-litre engine is always up for a run, and the estate offers good load space. The most recent cars, built since VW took over, show markedly improved quality of build. Entry-level cars are basic indeed.

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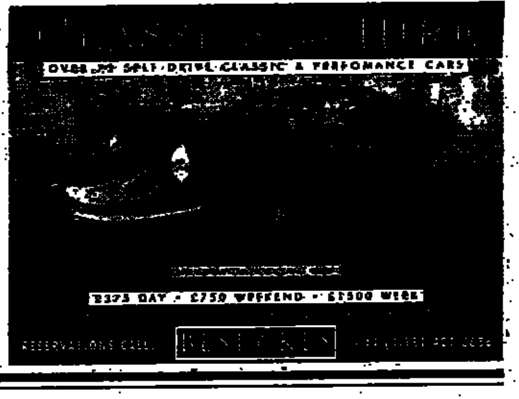
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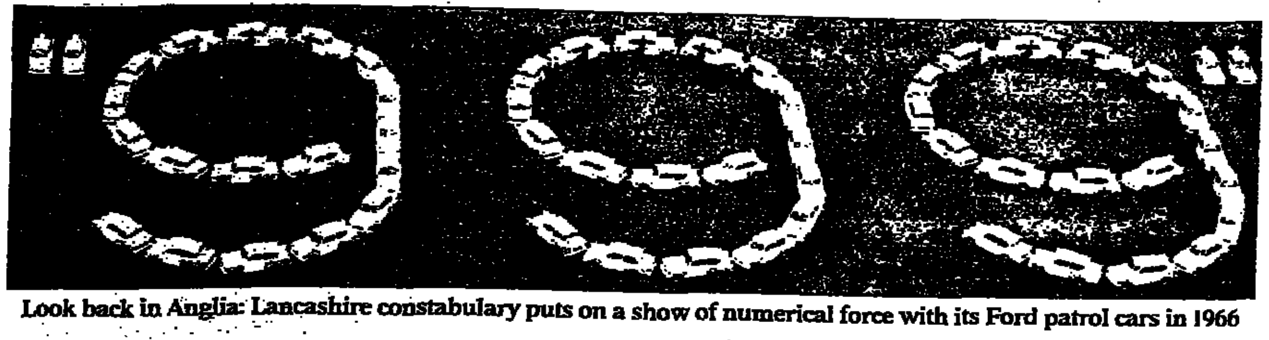
Ray Hearn on buying stigmatised police bargains



Look back in Anglia: Lancashire constabulary puts on a show of numerical force with its Ford patrol cars in 1966

Ex-pandas are just as loveable

Would you buy a used car from a driver like this? A man who exceeds speed limits, often during rush hours in busy city streets, and orders other road-users to "get out of the way".

The vehicles might have been involved in ambushes, robberies, or used to stop other cars, with, sometimes, unfortunate results.

They have had heavy wear on tyres, gears, clutches, brakes, and just about everything else. And this motorist might have had more than regular contact with undesirable characters.

Wild horses couldn't drag you to make such a purchase? Don't you trust the police?

Like most large organisations, Britain's police forces renew their fleets of motor vehicles regularly, and there are a lot of them. As our pictures recall the Panda car is 30 years old. But how good a buy is one of their second-hand cars?

Nearly all such cars pass through auction houses, where surprisingly, despite their history — both real and imagined — they do find eager trade buyers. Indeed many wouldn't buy anything else.

But of course all the marks of their former working life have to go first. "It's a fairly simple job," says a Scotland Yard spokesman. "After we take out radios and similar equipment, we then get down to the badges and other markings. What you've got left is a white used car."

A number of firms throughout Britain deal in these vehicles. Mario Emiliou, owner of MJC Motors in Birmingham, takes a fair number from the local force, which keeps about 1,200 vehicles on the road.

"Police cars are just as good a buy as any other car, and probably better maintained," he says. "The ordinary punter, however, sometimes may not see things this way. Perhaps it has something to do with television series such as *The Bill* where police chases are often hyped up, and cars get smashed or blown up."

He adds, "Anyone with that kind of image in their mind might be wary of taking their hard-earned cash out of the bank, and buying an ex-police vehicle."

But according to Emiliou, they would be wrong. "They could be turning their back on a bargain. Yes, it just might have been doing a ton the wrong way down a busy high street following a bunch of characters with sawn off shotguns.

"But it just might have doing nothing more exciting than going round quiet streets late at night."

Alan Hughes, an Oldbury foundry worker, has bought three ex-police cars. "One of the main reasons is that for their year and age, they were cheap, and they're sturdy and they've lasted very well.

"My very first second-hand police car was an E-registered Maestro 1300, which I kept for two years. Then I passed that on to my son-in-law. My latest buy, is another Maestro 1300, J registration.

"I've paid around £2,000 for each of them, and I think that is a very good buy indeed." The police put a reconditioned engine into his latest vehicle after 90,000 miles.

"I know what other motorists might think. It might have been involved in something nasty, then again perhaps not. But from my point of view I've got a bargain buy, with a more or less new engine, the bodywork is in superb condition, and it is going to last me two to three years.

"For a similar car to mine, many garages will be asking between £4,000 and £4,500, so I've saved a couple of grand at least."

And when Alan comes to choose his next car, it will be "an ex-police car again, no problem".

Allan Wilson, of West Bromwich, is another highly satisfied owner of a former police vehicle. A while ago, he bought a 1992 Astra four-door diesel, for which he paid just over £3,200.

"Two other cars I've owned had also belonged to the police, and I do know my motors, as I used to be trader."

"They're well maintained. The only amount I've forked out on the Astra so far is the princely sum of £1.50, and that was for a rocker cover gasket."

Wilson plans to keep this car for three or four years and would have no qualms in taking on a similar car in future.

For anyone wondering about how to spot a former police car on sale, Emiliou has a few tips: "Many dealers don't like admitting that they are selling something like this, because they think — quite wrongly in my opinion — that it might put customers off. Again, it's this image problem of bangs and crashes.

"So to get around this, they first put the car in their own name, and then sell it as a private purchase.

"Anyone suspecting anything can remember a few things. First of all, no police cars have sunroofs.

"Also, Take a hard look at the inside roof lining. (It may have traces where signs have been removed) And examine areas where you might find screws removed, whose use is not apparent. (They could have held radios or other equipment).

"I sell quite openly, and don't think there is any need for this kind of thing. But I believe any buyer should know more or less who did own the car before them."

Anglias again, when the force displays its new cars in 1967 — the police have to replace their fleets regularly

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Girls like Carol love Jaguar's hottest gadget

Carol Vorderman shows how the XK8 is proving the macho car women want to drive, says **Alan Copps**

There is one Hot Gadget in her own life that Carol Vorderman omitted from the BBC 1 series of that name that ends next Wednesday: the Jaguar XK8. For the glamorous presenter with a taste for wierd and wonderful technology also loves the latest in motoring machinery.

She recently traded a much-loved XJR saloon in British racing green for a sapphire-blue coupé version of Jaguar's much-lauded sportscar. In doing so she was fulfilling not only her own dream but that of Jaguar's marketing men and women.

In the words of Nick Scheele, Jaguar's chairman, just before the XK8 was launched: "The car will be particularly attractive to professional women who are out to make a statement. Women don't buy cars because they are a pretty pastel shade. They buy cars because they deliver what they want, and right from day one on the XK8 project we have had a number of women on the team."

But hold on a moment, isn't this the same car hailed as a "spiritual successor to the E-Type" — that ultimate phallic symbol of recent motoring history? If you're male and old enough to remember the E-Type there's no need to explain the difficulty of squaring that heritage with "a car designed for women by women".

Nevertheless, Jaguar predicted that up to a quarter of all XK8s would be bought by women, and in the nine months that the car has been on sale that prediction has been borne out: 15,000 cars have been sold, and in North America 30 per cent of buyers are women. So having driven a convertible test car (sapphire blue as it happens) in a hurry from London to the Midlands and satisfied myself that the E-Type claim was justified, I asked Vorderman, is it really a "woman's car"?

"I just love the way it suits my job. I've had it since April and covered 7,000 miles. I have to drive an awful lot and I want to go in something that allows me to arrive not feeling frenetic.

"I felt I was getting to the point that if I didn't get a sportscar now I would never get one. I liked the XJR, but the XK8 is a beautiful drive, a very different drive. It's much livelier but at the same time I feel very safe. My five-year-old daughter loves going in it.

"You get an awful lot of admiring glances, but in an appreciative sort of way. The looks are for the right reasons, they don't say 'flash bugger'. The car looks too classy for that. It goes like a dream. I love the feeling when the engine kicks in. At the same time it's very quiet and very easy to drive. I think that's something that appeals to a lot of women.

"It's not an enormous car. I think women generally prefer to drive smaller cars, perhaps because they're that much easier to park, but that's only one bit of it. Patrick, my husband, and I have always shared a car and he likes to drive it just as much."

Vorderman's accolade justifies much of the research that Jaguar put into the car's interior as well as its shape. Women executives drove thousands of test miles to make sure there were no nail-breaking switches, tights-snagging levers or skirt-hitching door-sills. But does that matter to a man in whose teenage dreams E-Types loomed large?

Not a bit. The interior may be all smooth shapes and leather, everything works electronically, there's none of the raw edge that made the E-Type a legend on the track as well as the road. The V8 engine is silky and the noise is subdued, only under extreme provocation does it build into an impressive roar.

But it delivers close to 300bhp and although Jaguar no longer provides a manual box, the automatic comes with the company's J-gate, which works as a clutchless change. So if you find a quiet bit of road and want to prove its agility, the results can be just as thrilling as the motorway cruising is smooth.

JAGUAR XK8

Engine: 4-litre, 290bhp V8, through 5-speed electronic auto. **Performance:** 0-60mph, 6.4 secs; max 156mph. **Economy:** Urban 15.7mpg, extra-urban 31.1mpg. **Equipment:** Anti-lock brakes, traction control, twin airbags. **Price:** £47,950 (£54,950 convertible).

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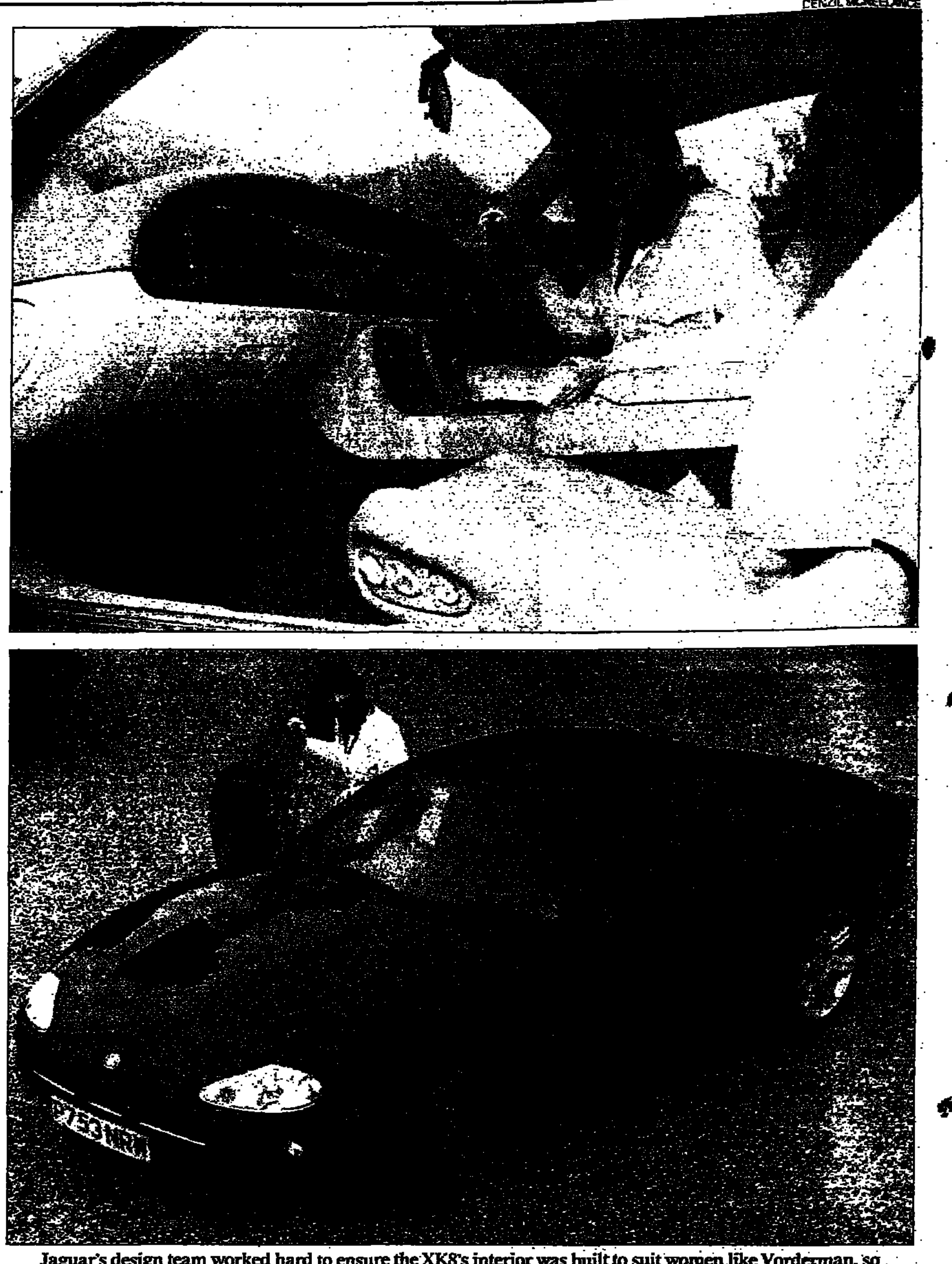

Jaguar's design team worked hard to ensure the XK8's interior was built to suit women like Vorderman, so the "spiritual successor to the E-Type" is relatively small and therefore happily suits female driving preferences

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100 TE Auto 1989, Blue, blue cloth, 7 seats, [illegible] Excellent condition, £11,950. 01494 816178 home, 01280 701180 office.

SL500
N reg, Green Black
Mushroom leather interior
10 CD, 1 owner
7,000 miles, FSH.
£71,000.
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1987, Red
With Cream interior
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Lady owner since 1981
FSH
Excellent condition
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97P Silver, Black leather,
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M registration 1994
Dark Grey Metallic
Walnut and Grey cloth interior
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Alloy wheels, ABS, twin airbags
51,000 miles,
Full MB service history
Excellent all round condition.
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Dec '95/N, elegance, auto,
air, OTG, Tourmaline/black,
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New R Reg. Available now!
Silver, black/red hide, top
specification. Delivery
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May 1995. Dark blue/grey
cloth. Sun roof.
1 non-smoking owner.
MB maintained.
Pristine 1st to view will buy.
51,000 miles.
£27,000.
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SLK 230
97P
White
with Black/Red leather
int, alloys, CD, cruise,
alarm, 2,000 miles.
£39,000 ono.
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coupe, auto, 1979, light
met blue, air con, 43K, 2
owns, FSH. Ex con,
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E220 1994,
rosewood, 1 owner, low miles,
FMBSH, 4x E/W, S/R, arm
rests back and front, head rests
back and front, PAS, music,
walnut wood interior,
cherished no plate, excellent
condition, must see,
£17,500 ovno,
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C200 Elegance
auto, 1994(M)
Beryl Blue,
Biege leather interior
17" alloys,
FMBSH, 34,000 miles
Superb, 1 owner
£19,995.
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OR 01708 527203

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380 SE
Auto 4 door saloon, November
1984 B reg, ivory, red leather
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windows & sun roof, air
conditioning, FSH, only 93k
miles, tax/MOT until Oct'97,
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Estate 16v.
L reg auto. White. 79,000
mls, FMBSH. 7 sts, ABS.
All electric windows
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£14,800.
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SLK
Red/black leather,
August delivery,
R Reg.
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E reg, family owned, 54k
mls, FSH, ivory, lthr
r/seat, showroom cond
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220
Estate Auto
N reg
Azurite blue/grey cloth
1 owner, FMBSH, immac
£23,250
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C220 ELEGANCE
'95N, Beryl metallic blue, blue
cloth interior, switchable auto,
ESR, EW x 4, EM, HLWW,
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A totally immaculate car.
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E320 COUPE, SPORTLINE
L reg, 30,000 miles, FMBSH
Blue Black Metallic with Grey leather,
aircon, cruise 5 speed auto, electric seats
with memory, lumbar and heated
ASR, ESR, 8 hole alloys
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S 280
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Smoke Silver, cream leather
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climate control,
Electric + heated front seats
Sunroof, 5 hole alloys
New £49,000
Will accept £42,950 ono.
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SL320
'94M, Nautic blue, cream hide,
5 speed auto, 8 holes, cruise,
climate, heated seats, rear
seats, CD, hidden mobile,
duplex aerial, FMBSH, 17,850
miles. £49,950
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L reg, new shape. Brilliant silver
with grey leather. Every possible
extra. Over £70,000 new. High
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Samoa Blue
With Blue hood
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Aircon, on board computer,
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2.0 Auto, 55,000 miles,
FSH, Malachite green,
ABS, a/bag, esr/wind/m,
sports upholst, CD, alloys
etc, as new 10 mth wty
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SLK 230 1ST Aug 'R', VAT qualifying, Komp, lmarine blue, quartz lthr, air con, headlamp wash, speakers £37,500 + 17½% VAT ono 0378 574906 anytime.T

S500
Auto coupe, met blue, lthr &
beige int, fully loaded, reg date
01/08/95, pristine condition,
14,500 mls, FMSH, 7 mths wty,
tax to 3/98
£67,500 ovno
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'96 N, 17.5K miles,
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Immaculate. CD player,
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1994, MReg, 27,000 miles,
FSH, 2 owners, red,
alloys, cloth seats.
Managing Director's car.
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R reg, avail now,
brilliant silver, black/
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best offers
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Mercedes, C280
elegance, azurite blue,
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twin air bags, C/C, 5spd
auto, CD/cas, A/C, 10K,
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FSH, CD, new tyres,
MoT,
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blue/mushroom lthr, rear
seats, 10 stack CD, 8 hole
alloys, ONLY 2400 mls,
immaculate
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manual, Silver/ Red
lthr, LHD, 96P, a/c,
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7 Seater auto 95N
Metallic Green
13,000 miles. FSH
Electric sunroof and windows
£23,750ono.
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Green/black. Mushroom
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6 hole alloys. 50,000
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Available mid August.
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97P, 5000 miles, silver,
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1988. Black, h/s top, rear
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Just had major service.
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Estate, 96N, Metallic
Grey/Grey, Auto, 7 seats,
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Alarm/immobiliser stereo &
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230E
G reg. metallic green, beige
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16v. 1989, in Almandine
red, half lthr, usual extras.
118k mls, FMBSH, excel
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immaculate.
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L reg, FMBSH, 43,000 mls.
CD player, cruise control
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Excellent. £16,500.
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SLK 230 Komp
July 1997.
Stunning black green metallic,
black hide. Air con, private
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lthr. full quality spec. inc. alarm,
ASR, climate control, rear seats,
8 hole alloys, air bags, rear
brakelights. 5k mls. Excep. cond.
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94M E200 Estate Auto ESR, Air Conditioning, ES x 2, ASD £22,950
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[مكتبة الأصل]

You need never be lost again: **Stuart Bladon** reviews the new generation of navigational aids

CDs with all the right tracks

While it doesn't seem to get cited in divorce cases, in-car map-reading arguments surely play a significant part in marital breakdowns. The scenario of one spouse trying to find the way, while the driver gets more and more furious at the incompetence of the partner holding the map upside down, is all too common.

For such couples, help is at hand in the form of the on-board navigation aid. Matrimonial peace might seem cheap at the typical £1,500-£2,000 that such equipment costs.

Business users driving alone and having to visit clients in unfamiliar territory will also find these devices a boon.

Philips and Blaupunkt are the main players at present, since their in-car navigators have been selected by several car manufactures for installation as an equipment option. They have attracted rivals, notably Alpine, the makers of top level hi-fi units for cars, and the Italian car-component giant, Magneti Marelli.

They all have common features such as the use of a display screen backed up by spoken instructions telling the driver which way to go; and they all use the American global positioning satellite system, to locate the car on the digital map. It's not like asking the local yokel the way and being told, "Well, oi wouldna' started from here anyways."

To see which came out best, we subjected all of them to the same test route, starting north of the capital on the M25 and driving across London. Each of the four systems chose a different route. Some of them might have planned a different itinerary if "quickest" rather than "shortest" had been requested.

Philips CARiN, tried in a BMW 525tds, made a good choice of route, but spoilt it by frequently giving instructions too late, and its screen display was not as informative as some of the others. Strong point of the CARiN system was the speed at which it revised the route if a mistake was made — and mistakes were made three times due to misunderstandings. The test driver chosen was not too familiar with navigating in London.

A Mercedes-Benz C180 was used to assess the Blaupunkt TravelPilot, and although the screen was mounted low down on the console, the big white-on-blue display proved easier to read. An Audi A8 was then tried, which had the TravelPilot display ideally located between the speedo and rev counter, and this proved very easy to follow. But TravelPilot's choice of route was not too good, taking the driver through heavy central London traffic instead of making use of the North Circular Road on the test journey from South Mimms services to a destination in Merton.

Both versions of the TravelPilot took the cars through the one-way complex at Hammersmith Broadway, and made a mess of it due to wrong programming of the one-way scheme. The CARiN system also went adrift, on to the North Circular Road. Such mistakes will be made less often as the digital maps are updated and new discs issued or sold to users.

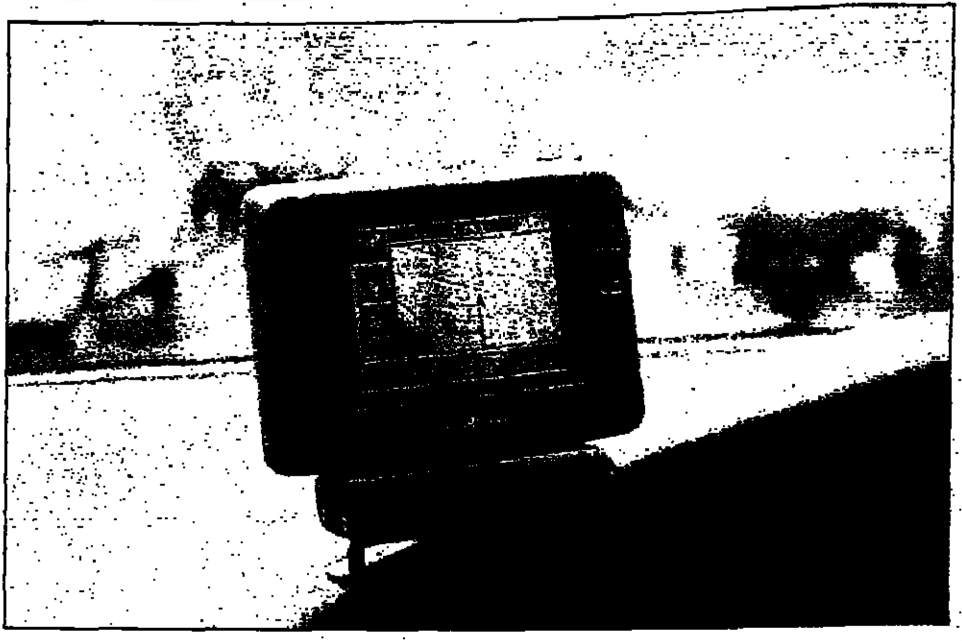
The Alpine and Magneti Marelli systems both use map information supplied by NavTech, which proved more accurate and up-to-date, and the display also proved excellent to follow. The screen shows a large-scale coloured map with pointer indicating the car's location. As the car progresses, so the map moves down the screen, so that the location arrow is always near the centre. Map orientation can be selected to give north at the top or, as most would prefer, with the direction always upwards so that left and right turns are as they appear.

Following the Magneti Marelli on a country road, just a quick glance at the screen was sufficient to reveal not only which way the next corner went, but also how tight it was. At each major junction such as a complex roundabout, the display changes to show a plan of the intersection, with a purple line to illustrate the route to be followed. Verbal instructions are in a clear male voice.

Alpine's similar map display also shows no-entry signs and key road names; but its screen is not quite as clear as that of the Magneti Marelli, and the spoken instructions not as well done. "Turn right," with the Alpine would cause a moment of anxiety before being followed by "a quarter-mile ahead".

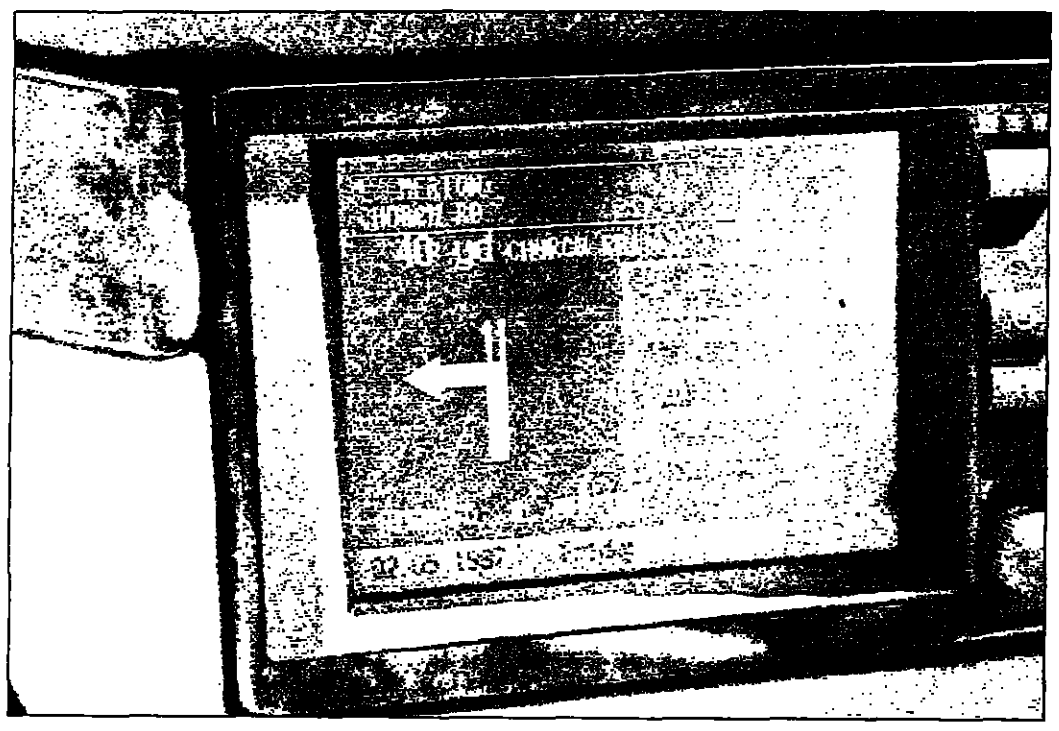
All the navigation aids led the cars satisfactorily to the destination in much the same time and distance — typically just over an hour and a half for 26 miles — in spite of the different route selections. If I had to make a choice for my own use, it would be the Magneti Marelli, but none of these systems will disappoint. Prices are set to fall as the devices become increasingly common.

MAGNETI MARELLI/FIAT

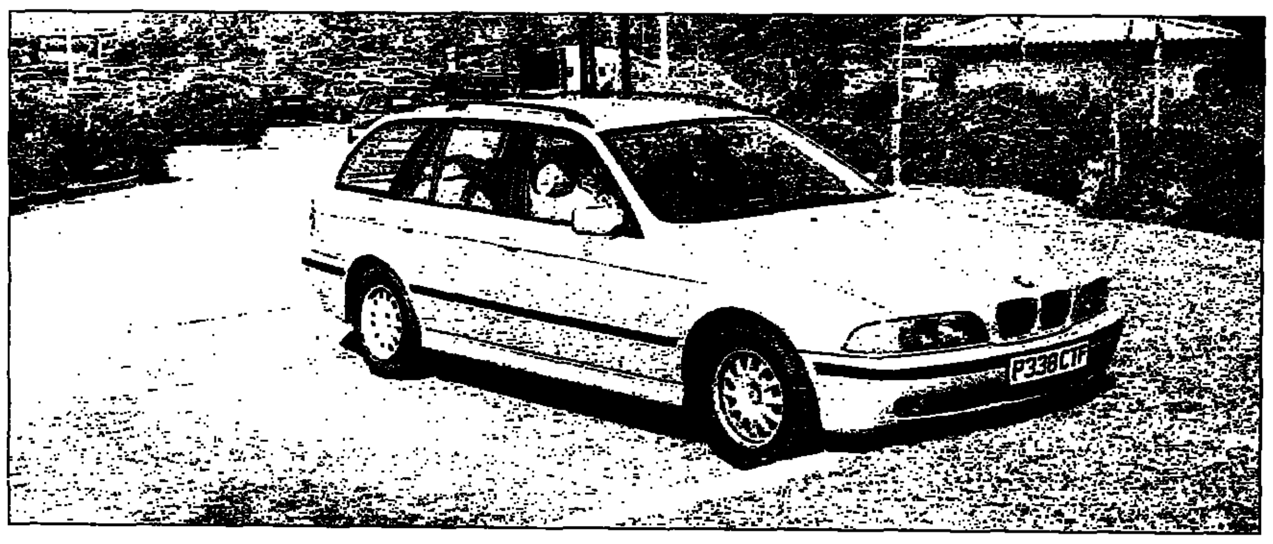


■ **MAGNETI MARELLI'S** unit is an after-market fitment, costing £1,950, including VAT, CD-Rom disc and an updated disc after six months. It is compatible with MS-DOS so that routes can be printed out if preferred. When following the Magneti Marelli's directions on a country road, just a quick glance at the screen was sufficient to reveal not only which way the next corner went, but also how tight it was. At each major junction such as a complex roundabout, the display changes to show a plan of the intersection and how to tackle it

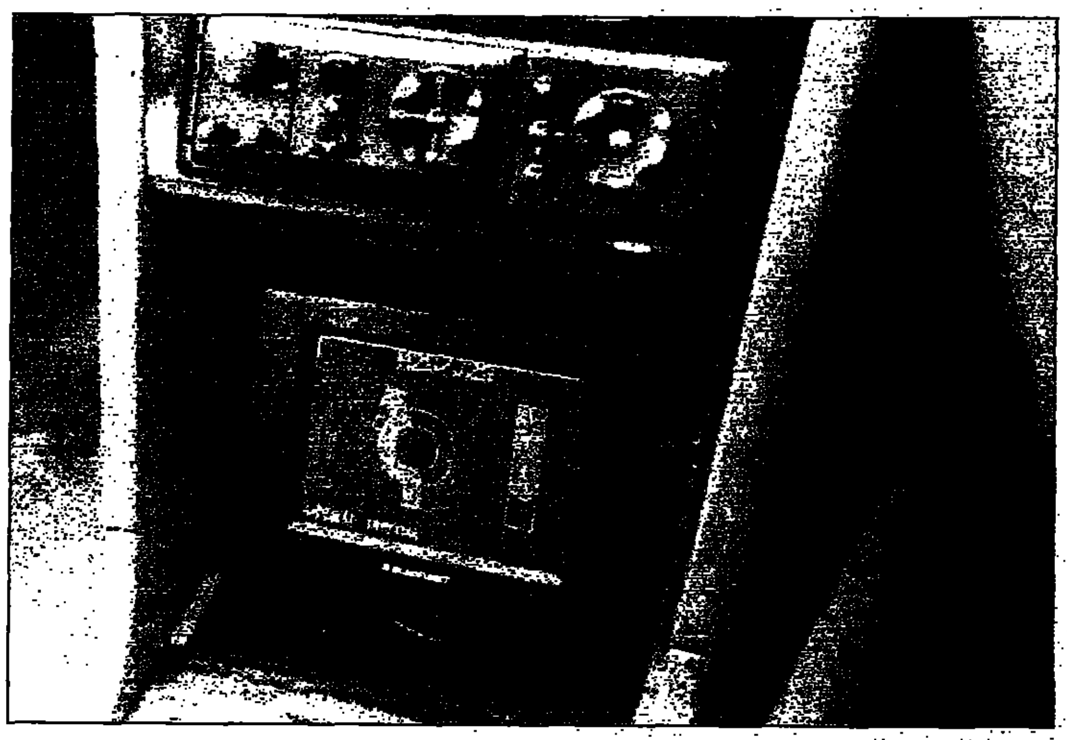
PHILIPS CARIN/BMW 5-SERIES



■ **PHILIPS** CARiN is combined with on-board computer, telephone and television for the BMW 5-series at a whopping £4,670; but it is available for the 750i at £1,500 which is also the price for the Vauxhall Vectra and Omega. Fitted in the BMW 525tds, it made a good choice of London route, but spoilt it by frequently giving instructions too late, and its screen display was not as informative as some of the others.



BLAUPUNKT TRAVELPILOT/MERCEDES-BENZ



■ **THE BLAUPUNKT** TravelPilot has won most orders from manufacturers to use it as original equipment in their cars. It is being offered to car buyers by Audi, Ford, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Rolls-Royce and Volkswagen on the Passat. Prices are typically £1,600, but more for the Rolls-Royce and Bentley, where it comes with hi-fi and telephone at £10,350. Through London, the route chosen was not the best.

HOW IT WORKS

■ SPEED, time and distance are inter-related. If any two values are known, then the third can be calculated. It is on this basis that the global positioning satellites (GPS) enable the system to identify the car's location.

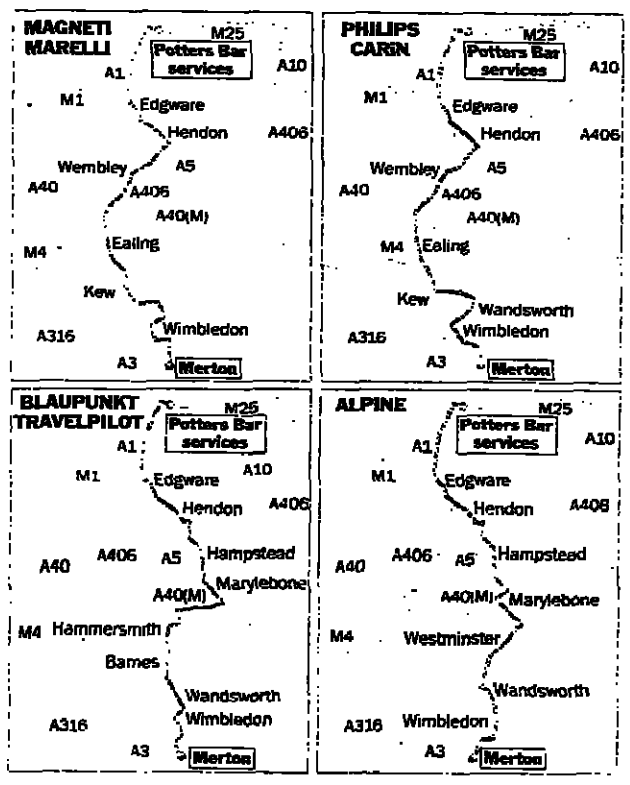
The satellites that are used to provide GPS information were put into orbit by the American Department of Defense. The receiver in the car needs to collect signals from at least three satellites.

Each satellite gives its identity and the start time of its transmission. The receiver then computes the time that each signal has taken to arrive, and thus each satellite's distance away from the car. Three distance readings allow the car's position on Earth to be calculated with great accuracy.

Additional satellite readings increase the accuracy. However, because the Department of Defense considered that too great a level of accuracy would represent a security risk, deliberate random errors were introduced into the system, so accuracy is only to about 100 metres. Navigation systems take other information, such as compass readings and wheel rotation to confirm the car's location and direction.

The ultimate success of the system depends on the skill with which the computer programme has been written. The aim is to select the optimum route, based on practicality, likely traffic flow and directness to the destination.

The entire database of street information for the whole of



Great Britain can be stored on a single CD-Rom disc. In addition, the disc gives other information such as location of hotels, service stations or sports centres.

But the system will be by no means limited to this country. There are already digital CD maps covering Australia, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, available at £100 each, including VAT.

As roads are rebuilt, road numbers are changed and other alterations made to the transport network, the CD-Rom disc will become out of date, like conventional paper maps. Updated discs will be available, typically costing about £50. Most of the navigation systems provide the first updating disc free.

All of the systems featured emphasise the need for the driver to watch the road and not allow their attention to be distracted by the screen display. Navigating oneself with pinpoint accuracy into the back of a bus would be unhelpful.

The clear spoken instructions (in any chosen language) enable the driver to concentrate on the job in hand, and if the screen display is clear and well situated, it can be seen at a glance, just like checking the rear mirror.

THE FUTURE

■ Navigation systems are very expensive at present, but like car telephones they will become cheaper and may soon be available at £500-£600. They will also get better.

The next development will be "intelligent navigation", which chooses the best route in view of the prevailing traffic conditions, varying it where necessary to avoid jams.

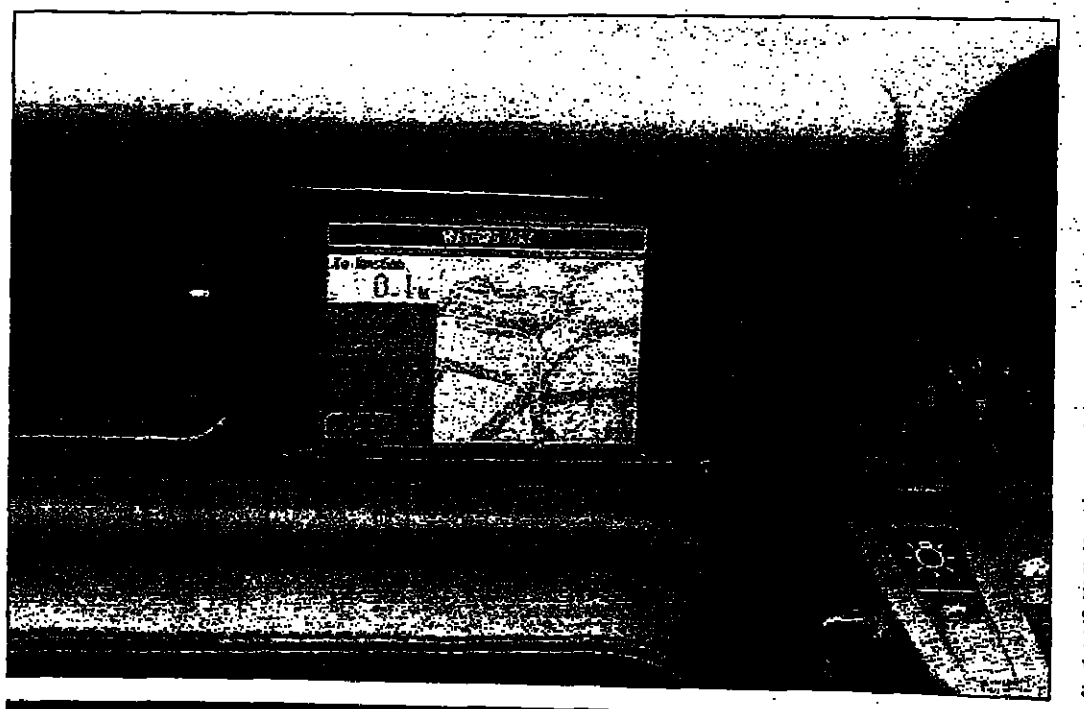
Daimler-Benz has developed such an aid, called the Intelligent Traffic Guidance System. It is currently operating in Tokyo, where it is expected that 5,000 vehicles will have it by the end of this year.

It can be programmed to show a choice of parking lots, and number of vacant spaces available in each. It would also call out the appropriate emergency service automatically in event of breakdown or accident. It started in Tokyo in April this year, using a network of 14,000 sensors and over 200 closed-circuit TV cameras.

Volkswagen's system, shown on their contribution to the Prometheus research programme in 1994, used a dual-mode navigation system linked to traffic data to redirect cars from congestion.

Eventually, map displays will be replaced by visual pictures of the roads ahead, but this seems a long way in the future and might be less helpful than the clear maps and diagrams that are used by the present system.

ALPINE NVE-NO55ZP/JAGUAR



■ **ALPINE'S** unit is the NVE-NO55ZP, available at present only as an after-market fitment for £2,200, including VAT and the first two CD-Rom update discs. The price of fitting is extra and should take between two and four hours. It will be available with television from September. The Alpine and Magneti Marelli systems both use map information supplied by NavTech, which proved most accurate

هكذا من الأصل

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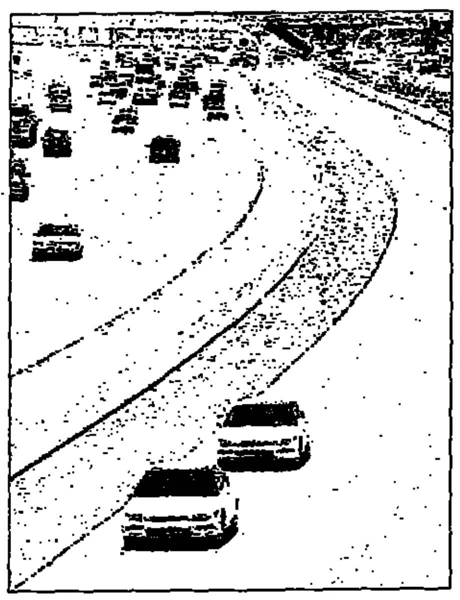

Two Hondas demonstrate the system

The driver yawned, scratched his head and opened the newspaper; the car sped on at a constant 55mph, never deviating from the inside lane of the motorway.

Welcome to the 21st century, when the car will do the thinking, making motorways safer than ever before, *Kevin Eason writes.*

The first automated highway in the world was opened this week between San Diego and Los Angeles, a road fitted with 92,000 magnets to guide cars without input from the driver. Two Honda Accords demonstrated the system, wafting along just eight feet apart, the distance kept constant by a radar system in each car, the drivers chatting and paying no attention to what was happening on the road.

Eventually, cars lorries and buses will be able to travel in convoy at speeds up to 100mph in any weather conditions on motorways like this.

The idea seemed the stuff of science fiction until the American project, which Britain is watching closely. Not only would traffic move more safely in an electronic convoy, it could help end congestion, with the speed of traffic constant, computers in each following vehicle constantly monitoring the pace of the vehicle in front.

The system would be a boon here where there is resistance to building extra lanes on motorways or new highways. Existing motorways could be fitted with the magnets, while the radar technology is already tried and tested and can be fitted without difficulty in models coming off production lines today.

Attacks by motorists are putting an end to draymen's rounds, says **Jenny Knight**

Horse-rage hits London tradition

The end of the dray? Young & Co's Brewery used to send out three pairs of horses each day, but now it makes only one horse-drawn delivery a week

A 400-year-old tradition of daily beer deliveries by horse-drawn drays has been curtailed after complaints and attacks by motorists. Young & Co's Brewery in Wandsworth used to send out three pairs of horses each day, but now it makes only one horse-drawn delivery each week during a quiet time of day.

The disruption of what was one of London's traditions has prompted hundreds of letters and calls to the brewery mourning the loss. The drays, pulled by a pair of heavy horses, used to deliver to about 40 public houses within a three-mile radius.

Michael Hardman from Young & Co's says, "Over the past ten years we started getting complaints, and finally there were a series of nasty incidents in which drivers deliberately brushed the horses as they went by. The final straw came when a motorist removed the chocks under the wheels of the dray while deliveries were being made to the Plough in Clapham Junction, south London.

"He thwacked one of the horses across the backside causing them to bolt into the morning rush hour traffic. After a mile and a half they were stopped by someone who knew how to handle horses and was brave enough to seize the reins."

With the passing of Young's daily deliveries, many believe the London street scene is sadly diminished. A few other organisations in London still use horses for limited deliveries, mainly for the public-relations benefit. Capital Carriages uses a brougham pulled by a pair of horses to make deliveries for Rothmans of Pall Mall two days a week.

Director Paul Hillman says, "We have been pushed up on to the pavement by oncoming traffic. Lots of people don't realise they have to give way to a horse. A motorist drove into the back of a carriage from the Royal Mews recently."

Four people at Young's will be made redundant, but the 19 Shires, Percherons, Suffolk punches and Clydesdales which regularly compete in country shows, will remain at the stables in Wandsworth.

Mr Hardman says: "Shires weigh up to a ton, and the beer on a dray weighs about three tons, so a pair of bolting Shires is very dangerous. We have had an acceleration of incidents in the last five years. The horses only made short journeys but their average walking pace is 5mph compared to the average London traffic speed of 11mph.

"A bus ran into one, and on another occasion a pair bolted and one landed on the bonnet of a car. We had an increase in people sitting in their cars seething at the delay and calling us on their mobile phones. I have been stuck behind the horses but it was never for more than a couple of minutes, because they don't go vast distances before they turn off. I think the traffic in London is now so bad that people can't stand any extra delay or aggravation."

The heavy horses used by Young's are much less skittish and temperamental than many other horses. Misdemeanours by the teams have been limited to eating the occasional female licensed victualler's hat. Even when the horses bolted they have always waited at the next delivery point.

Young's argument, that public intolerance at delays has increased, is confirmed by the British Horse Society. It has just launched a free video, *Horse Sense*, advising motorists how to deal with equestrian traffic. When waiting to overtake a horse, the motorist should stay at least a car's length behind; when passing they should stay at least 2ft away from the animal and pull smoothly past without any noisy acceleration.

Nichola Gregory, of the British Horse Society, says, "There are 3,000 accidents involving horses on the roads and three people are killed each year. An enormous number of horses die. It is terrifying for the riders. A lot of motorists swear or shout at riders.

"Riders are never on the roads by choice — they are normally only going a short distance to a bridleway or stables. A lot of commuters and newcomers to the countryside drive around bends at 60mph without realising that a horse or tractor might be round that corner."

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